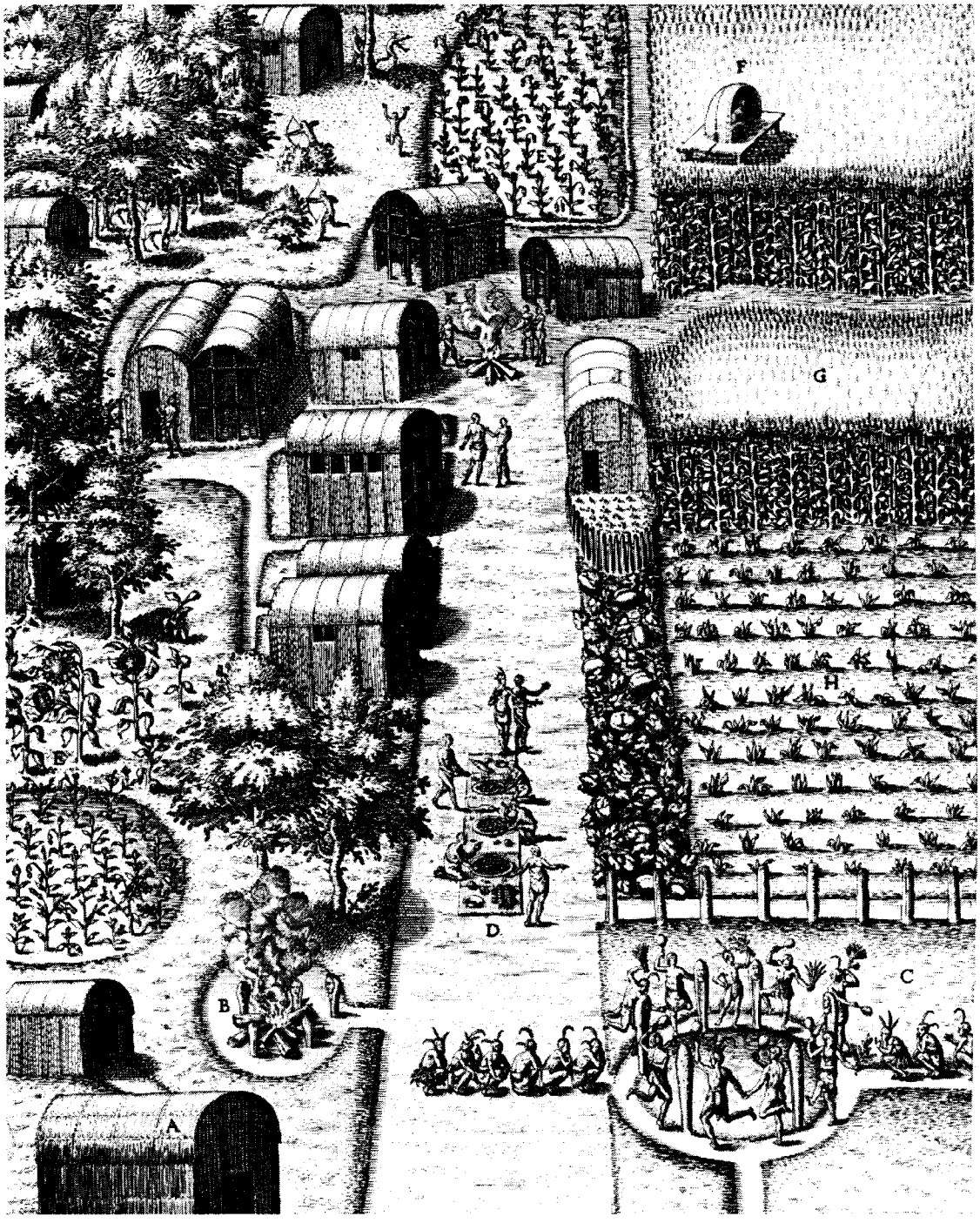
Salisbury University
Nabb Research Center
for Delmarva History and Culture
Chesapeake Bay

Shoreline

Vol. 10, No. 3 • March 2003

For the Members of the Edward H. Nabb Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture at Salisbury University

People of the Tidewater: Eastern Shore Indians



Salisbury University
EDWARD H. NABB RESEARCH CENTER FOR DELMARVA HISTORY & CULTURE
1101 Camden Ave.
Salisbury, Maryland 21801
fax: 410-677-5067
e-mail: rcdhac@salisbury.edu
http://nabbhistory.salisbury.edu

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Director's Dialogue

from Becky Miller

We dedicate this issue of *Shoreline* to the indigenous people of Delmarva, those we call Native Americans. The native people faced many alterations to their way of life after the arrival of Europeans in the 17th century; the effects of this contact literally displaced these people and their culture to the point of near extinction on the Lower Shore. In this issue we celebrate a renaissance of the history and culture of the first inhabitants of the Eastern Shore. The ancestors of modern Native Americans require a respectful study of their ancient culture not only for their ancestors' skills in living off the land but also for their efforts to adapt to the changing conditions over which they had no control. It is always difficult to view the past from current times in the effort to grasp the perspectives of two vastly different cultures. We hope you enjoy this special issue.

Throughout this issue you will see various pleas for cash support of projects undertaken by the Nabb Research Center, whether it be the preservation of a historical item, rebinding of books, cash for purchase of new materials or sales of books to provide general operating support. The Nabb staff sincerely appreciates the support you have already given by your membership in our history center which is dedicated to the Delmarva history you love. Please help us in any way you can.

Submissions

Anyone interested in submitting an article to the *Shoreline* newsletter should send their item to the newsletter editor as follows:

Jill Jeffery
Research Coordinator
Nabb Research Center
Salisbury University
1101 Camden Avenue
Salisbury, MD 21801

or send an e-mail to
jnjeffery@salisbury.edu.

We also welcome your comments and suggestions.

Hours & Closings

HOURS

Monday, 9:30 a.m.-9 p.m.
Tuesday-Friday, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Saturday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

CLOSINGS

March 24-29, 2003 - Renovation
April 16, 2003 Board Meeting
May 24-26, 2003 - Memorial Day
July 4-5, 2003 - Independence Day

Errata: Our December 2002 issue of the *Shoreline* newsletter incorrectly indicated that the date for the Nabb Research Center's May event is Saturday, May 5, 2003. The correct date for the event is Saturday, May 3, 2003.

Cover: Drawing by John White of a Secotan Indian village in Virginia. White laid out the drawing with letters distinguishing each section of village. Source: *A Briefe and True Report of the New Found land of Virginia*, Thomas Harriot, with a new Introduction by Paul Hulton, Dover Publications, Inc., New York.

Shoreline

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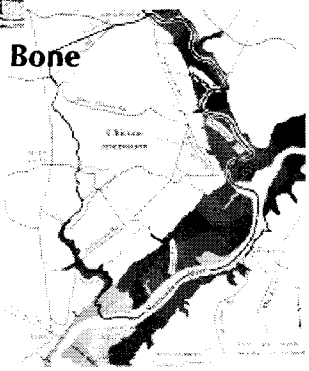
WILLIAM GERMAIN



12
Our Chiefs of Chiefs Village
VIRGINIA BUSBY

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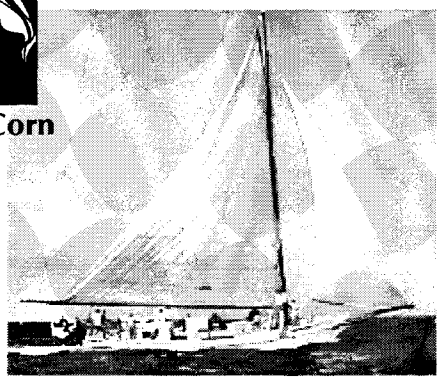
Master of the Corn



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Recollections from Delmarva's Maritime History
EDMUND NELSON

Volume 10 No. 3 March 2003

Director, Rebecca F. Miller. *Archivist,* Rebecca Brooks. *GIS Technician,* Aaron Horner. *Research Coordinator,* Jill Jeffery. *Administrative Assistant,* Donna Messick. *Library Technician/Web Designer,* Iris Powell. *Graduate Assistants,* Pamela Collins & Michael Dondzila.

This issue and back issues of the *Shoreline* may be purchased for $10 each by contacting us at 410-543-6312 or rcdhac@salisbury.edu.

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Yesterday's News

by Rebecca Brooks, Archivist

Well, these last few months have been busy back here in the *archives wing* of the Nabb Center. Besides settling in after our move, we have been shifting materials and accepting new donations, not to mention processing and rehousing many items. Since last September, at least 50 archival donations have made it to our pre-accessioning room to join some of our other unprocessed materials. This issue's column is dedicated to explaining a little of what we do with the materials we receive.

The materials we accept vary extremely in content and quantity as well as condition. As we've mentioned before, the first thing we look at when we receive an item is its condition. If something is in critical condition and needs to be addressed immediately, we do our best to stabilize the item and mitigate further destruction. The conservation of each item is handled on a case-by-case basis which means that by the time we are finished processing a collection, we may have been through the materials at least four or five times–once during an initial conservation assessment, once during an inventory, and at least two or three times while the materials are arranged intellectually. If an item appears in danger of disintegration or further destruction after the few times we have handled it, we know that it is a candidate for supplementary preservation.

Archivists try to best preserve each item so that researchers for many years to come will be able to consult it. This means that some items, such as photographs, slides and negatives are put into inert polyester sleeves–excessive handling of these materials without protection can leave a residue of oils from the skin or scratches from small particles of dust and dirt. A clear sleeve, however, allows researchers to look at the image with less risk of harming the physical object.

An alternative means of preservation is to digitally scan items so that we can offer preservation copies or digital substitutes. Thus far two of our postcard collections have been completed, and we hope to have digital copies of many of our Orlando Wootten photographs soon. Not only will this help save the originals from wear and tear, but it will also allow patrons to browse images on a computer. The Nabb Center hopes to make these digital substitutes available through our web site to allow patrons even greater access to our materials.

The Nabb Center is currently engaged in another program to create preservation copies of some of our most accessed materials. Among these are 18th century ledgers from a recent Freedom Ainsworth donation. An elaborate method of digital photography, image processing and hardcopy output is being experimented with for one of the more fragile items, a Teackle ledger from 1801. Each page is photographed and each image is cleaned, cropped, checked for quality and saved. A printout of the images can then be used in place of the fragile original. A preservation surrogate replicates the original completely and fully serves the research needs of patrons.

After determining what needs immediate attention, what needs a preservation copy and what is stable, we consider the collection materials as a whole and look for obvious groupings such as subject matter or format. We try to keep materials from a donor in the order in which he or she organized them; however, some collections are restructured. We always try to envision how researchers will want to use the items and often that guides the intellectual arrangement of a collection.

After deciding on an arrangement, it is time to rehouse the materials. After removing staples, tape and other harmful agents, the items are placed into acid-free, lignin-free folders and boxes for storage. When arranging the materials intellectually, we disregard size and shape, but when housing the items, we must consider these constraints. Often materials grouped together intellectually do not reside together on the shelves in the archives. In order to overcome this disorganization, our materials are numbered and cataloged. We spend a great deal of time inputting subject terms for each item, contemplating possible search phrases, so that researchers can find every resource we have. With the Nabb Research Center database, patrons can search our archival and library collections, both in our reading room and on the Internet.

Once we have cataloged all the materials, they take their places on the shelves and await researchers. There are some items requiring restricted access privileges, materials dealing with sensitive subject matters, such as social security numbers, or items in need of serious conservation, such as the White Haven ledger, which we cannot yet afford to have conserved. If a patron wishes see these materials, a staff member will assist while viewing or the patron may be asked to make an appointment with the archivist.

Hopefully, this piece sheds a little light on what the archivist does here at the Nabb Research Center. If any of you would be interested in volunteering in the archives, please feel free to contact our archivist, Becca Brooks.

The Nabb Research Center will be closed to the public March 24-29, 2003. New shelving will be installed in the Reading Room during that week. Thank you for your patience while we work to improve our facilities.

What is the connection between John Luke Porter, designer of the Merrimac (or CSS Virginia), and a resident of Salisbury's Parsons Cemetery? Stay tuned for this story in an upcoming newsletter.

Welcome!
http://nabbhistory.salisbury.edu/
THE EDWARD H. NABB
RESEARCH CENTER FOR
DELMARVA HISTORY & CULTURE
Open to the public, the Nabb Research Center is a repository for artifacts, books, genealogy, manuscripts, maps, microfilm, and original documents pertaining to the Delmarva Peninsula.

Web News

by Iris Powell

"Although the written word may not have endured, the material remains of the past often have survived. They are there, waiting to fill in the missing pages of history ..."
Ivor Noël Hume, Historical Archaeology (1972)

April 2003 celebrates Maryland Archaeology Month. The theme for this year is "Preserving Maryland's Archaeological Heritage ... Priceless." History is the tale of "small things remembered" and preserved in historical text or in artifact. Often the artifact sits alone waiting for the text to give it a place in time and geography. The cumulative effect of putting the large and small, significant and not so together enriches the heritage of "how they lived." This is the question at the heart of archaeological excavation and research. This theme of preservation, heritage and history will be addressed on Saturday, April 5, at 1 p.m. at the Nabb Research Center in a lecture by Dr. Elizabeth Ragan titled "The Archaeology of Old Somerset: Life on the Manokin in the 17th Century."

In conjunction with Archaeology Month, the Nabb Research Center Web site, http://nabbhistory.salisbury.edu, is featuring on its calendar page a list of links dedicated to archaeology. These sites demonstrate the wealth of interest and effort in the science of archaeology locally, nationally and globally. These interactive sites display the educational opportunities available through the design and creation of links that can visually articulate historical text and concepts.

- **Maryland Historical Trust Web** site as well as links to archaeology Web sites. Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development Archaeology Web sites. At this site, use the index to *Planning and Outreach to Links to Archaeology Sites.*
  www.MarylandHistoricalTrust.net/
- **Washington College** in Chestertown offers examples of interactive archaeology sites. Scroll down to recommended Internet sites.
  http//faculty.washcoll.edu/bios_seidel_john.html
- **Dig's State by State Guide to Archaeology and Paleontology Events for Kids, Families and Schools in Maryland**
  www.digonsite.com/guide/maryland.html
- **Furnace Town Living Heritage Museum**
  www.octhebeach.com/Museum/FurnaceTown.html
- **Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc.** At this site, click WWW icon for links.
  www.smcm.edu/Academics/soan/asm/publ.htm

Upcoming Events

March 24-29, 2003
Closed for renovations.

Saturday, April 5, 2003, 1 p.m.
"The Archaeology of Old Somerset: Life on the Manokin in the 17th Century" - Lecture
In celebration of Maryland Archaeology Month, Dr. Elizabeth Ragan, SU anthropology professor, will discuss the findings from the archaeological dig conducted by SU students this summer in Somerset County. The lecture will take place at the Nabb Center and is free and open to the public.

Monday, April 14, 2003, 1-3 & 5-7 p.m.
Native American Medicine Practices
(Postponed from February 17, 2003)
Learn how Native Americans use plants and herbs in healing. Dawn Manyfeathers will discuss traditional cleansing ceremonies such as, "smudging" and "sweeping," Native American beliefs in the four sacred herbs and plant "signatures." Attendees will receive a class workbook. $20 per person. Call for details.

Monday, April 28, 2003
1-3:30 & 5-7:30 p.m.
Native American Gourdmaking Workshop
Throughout the centuries, Native Americans prized durable, functional gourds as bowls and storage vessels. Learn how to cure, dress and decorate gourds in the Native American tradition. $25 per person. Call for details.

Saturday, May 3, 2003, 1 p.m.
"The Teackles in Flesh and Bone" - Lecture
In celebration of Preservation Month, local decorative arts dealer William Germain will discuss his recent work documenting the life of Littleton Dennis Teackle. A prominent 19th century Somerset County resident, Teackle led a fascinating life establishing connections with many important figures of his day including President James Madison. The lecture will take place at the Nabb Center and is free and open to the public.

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On Saturday, May, 24, 2003, the innaugural reception to benefit the Nabb Research Center will be held at Clifton, circa 1805, Revell's Neck, Somerset County, MD. Clifton, a National Register of Historic Places site, is the home of Nabb Research Center Board Member Kathryn Washburn Niskanen. Mr. and Mrs. Niskanen will be hosting the event.

Focus on Primary Research

Teackle, Dennis and Teackle

by William Germain

The Nabb Research Center at Salisbury University recently acquired an important Somerset County document—a ledger titled "Teackle, Dennis and Teackle, Merchants, Princess Anne, 1801 (Ledger A)." The impressive, Morocco-bound tome is the account book of the firm of Teackle, Dennis and Teackle (TD&T). This ledger fills an important gap in the extant knowledge about Littleton Dennis Teackle (1777-1848) and his business dealings from his earliest days. Previously, documentation on the Teackles was fairly extensive for the years 1805, 1806 and 1807 but little was known about 1801-1804, the first years that TD&T was operating. The ledger records an astonishing array of goods sold by Teackle's store in Princess Anne, MD, and documents many aspects of life in Somerset County at the beginning of the 19th century. The transactions recorded in this ledger give clues to the way the Teackles lived and furnished their own home, now known as the Teackle Mansion, as well as giving new insight into the consumption patterns of the residents of Somerset County in general.

The 201-page ledger has survived in relatively good condition. The bindings are intact and for the most part, the pages are in good, legible condition. There are, however, a few pages cut out. Pages 51-73 are missing, leaving frustrating gaps in knowledge. For example a credit side will show and a debit side will be missing. Likewise a debit side will be there but will not show who the customer was.

This document lends important insight into life in early 19th century Somerset County. The ledger not only lists the names of early customers, but also gives their location (Princess Anne, Shell Town, Pocomoke, Dames Quarter, Dividing Creek, Monie, Snow Hill, Salisbury, Accomac) and sometimes their occupations (George Williams - Princess Anne coachmaker, Robert Frames - the tanner, Isaac Benson - gaoler, William Andrew - pedler) as well as their social status (Negro Golah - free, Negro Shadrach - slave of R. Waters, Jesse Lee - free mulatto, John Martin - formerly overseer of John Dennis, Esq.).

The ledger also records where merchandise for the store was purchased (Philadelphia, Norfolk, West Indies, London) as well as recording wages paid (mostly, but not exclusively, to slaves or their owners) for labor such as brick-making, wood chopping, wood culling and shingle making.

TD&T supplied goods to a large part of the Eastern Shore. Customers holding accounts with TD&T came from as far away as Easton, Accomac and Snow Hill. In the days of horse travel, these distances are considerable. The number of customers is surprisingly large. There are over 500 customers recorded in this one volume (Ledger A).

The origin and demise of TD&T are murky, but the partnership was the group effort of John Teackle (1753-1817), his son, Littleton Dennis Teackle, John Dennis (died 1806 of consumption) and Littleton Dennis. Both Dennises were brothers of Littleton Dennis Teackle's mother, Elizabeth Dennis Teackle. The store business began some time around 1800 and ended around 1804 when Littleton Dennis Teackle bought out his partners. Littleton Dennis Teackle did continue for more than a year after that time settling un-paid accounts.

TD&T employed one clerk, Peter Waters (died August 7, 1806), and two assistant clerks, William M. Upshur and John Bloodsworth. These employees are recorded at the back of the ledger where they were required to sign an oath stating "... Somerset County 9th September 1803/ personally appeared before me the subscriber of the Justices of the Peace for the county aforementioned Peter Waters (Clerk to Teackle, Dennis and Teackle) and made an oath on the Holy Evangels of Almighty God that the several amounts contained in this Book from folio one to folio two hundred and thirty four inclusive are just & true as they are stated, agreeable to his hand writing in the day Book, and that he hath not directly or indirectly received any part parcel, Security or Satisfaction for the same more than Credit given to each persons Acct. to the best of his knowledge. Sworn before Tubman Lowes."

At the dawn of the 19th century, Princess Anne was a bustling town due to its easy access to water. Littleton Dennis Teackle himself reports that Somerset County was "deemed one of the richest in the state," with exports totaling "in excess of $1/2 million per annum and is exporting 2,000 hogsheads of tobacco per year." Somerset County exports included wheat, corn, oats, peas, beans, tobacco, pork and oak bark (used for tanning leather and dying).

Princess Anne was seen at the time as a town that was sure to grow and prosper due to this water access. Unfortunately, the Manokin River was too shallow and this factor led to the town's decline shortly thereafter.

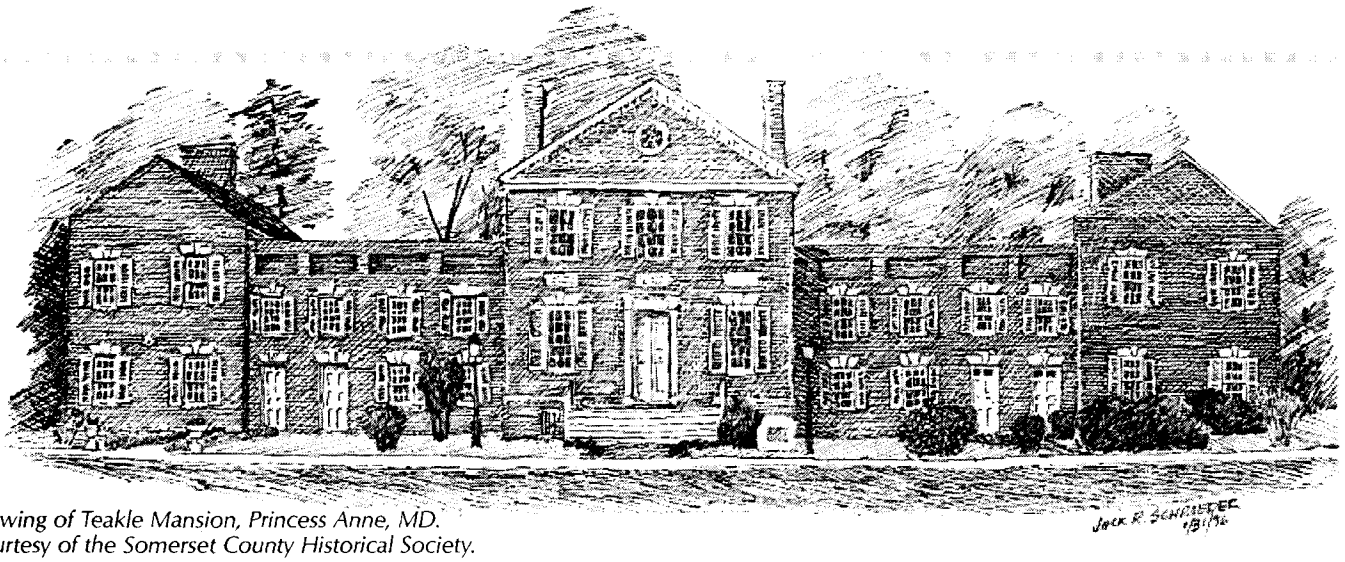
Littleton Dennis Teackle was post master general to the town of Princess Anne and many postage transactions are recorded in the ledger.

It is interesting to note that credits and debits in the TD&T Ledger were recorded in pounds, shillings and pence, indicating that Princess Anne was still using the British monetary system. The astonishing range of goods sold falls into the general categories of books, dry goods, clothing, hardware, household goods and sundries.

Teackle sold quite a few books, including spelling books, Bibles, Greek testaments, prayer books, Latin grammar, *Washington's History*, geography, English grammar, as well as journals and blank books. The ledger also records sets of books sold such as *Modern Europe*. Judging from the price, the set was an expensive luxury item.

Washington's History was a five volume set and sold by "subscription." A patron would pay in installments as the volumes were produced. Some of the books and stationery sold came from a C.P. Wayne of Philadelphia. C.P. Wayne was also the editor of the subscription set *Washington's History*. Further investigation has revealed a substantial reciprocal commerce between the two. The *Washington Federalist* was sold by subscription and may have been a newspaper.

Spelling books and Latin grammar were the best sellers at the store. Some Latin grammar books were sold to Henry Hooper of Washington Academy. Judging by the quality of the bindings of the surviving TD&T ledger and other Teackle volumes, the blank books and journals could have been of the finest quality, being made of tooled kid leather and red



Drawing of Teakle Mansion, Princess Anne, MD.
Courtesy of the Somerset County Historical Society.

morocco leather with gold leaf lettering.

An interesting transaction at TD&T is the purchase of some luxury goods from Robert Jackson, Esq., a ship captain. Jackson supplied the Teackles and their customers with expensive gold watches, engraved fobs and chains. On September 19, 1801, John Teackle purchased a gold watch from Jackson for 42 pounds. The same entry records his son, Littleton Dennis Teackle, purchasing a gold chain and engraved fob for 7 pounds, 6 pence. Later in the ledger, John Teackle is recorded purchasing another watch for 70 pounds. This transaction is probably a commission sale. Jackson purchased the above items in England and returned to Princess Anne with the costly goods whereupon he was reimbursed by the firm. These commission sales were quite common in the days when most manufactured goods were produced in Great Britain.

Another expensive luxury item was purchased at TD&T on April 16, 1803, when a "Miss Jones" purchased a gold watch for 28 pounds, 8 shillings. This watch was purchased through Littleton Teackle's friend and London merchant, John Braddick.

Cloth and clothing constituted a major segment of TD&T's stock. Clothing in this period was very expensive. Cotton cloth was woven in England on cotton imported from the New World. Once the cloth was woven on the newly invented steam powered looms, there were no sewing machines to piece the cloth together. Therefore, store-bought clothing was quite expensive, and most people bought materials to sew their own clothing. For example, the ledger mentions "brown or grey coating." Even wealthy people in this period only had a handful of garments. Teackle did sell some pre-sewn articles such as wool hats, cloaks, stockings and hose, but he also sold materials for people to make their own such as velvet and silk ribbon, muslin, skains (sic.) of silk, buttons and beads. Stockings and hose (for both men and women) and all types of hats from utilitarian to fancy were among the top selling items in the store.

In 1802, a very stylish "Miss Nancy Elzey" purchased one plume, silver cord and tassel in order to make the latest fashionable hairdo. Conversely, a "Miss Jane Matthews" purchased black bombazine and black lace suggesting she was in mourning.

The store also sold cloth that most probably went to furnishing interiors. Chintz was sold for making curtains and bed hangings, bed ticking for mattresses, and check for making slip covers for furniture. Yellow and gold backing (or bocking) was used to seal backs of mirrors, line table tops and cover floors as crumb cloths. These cloths would be placed under a table before a meal to catch debris and afterwards would be taken outside and shaken out. Teackle also sold feathers and ticking to make feather beds.

Teackle's hardware line was extensive and gives a view into what people in Somerset County used in their daily lives. Guns, shot and powder were one of the concern's biggest sellers, implying that food supplies were largely supplemented by game. Scythes, hoes, clover feed and sheep shears were goods supplied to Somerset County farmers.

At the same time, the store was providing many luxury goods such as dessert knives (with stained ivory handles), sets of cups and saucers, China bowls (in two sizes), liquor cases, damask table cloths, inlaid mahogany shaving cases fitted with mirrors (from England) and looking glasses. One looking glass is listed at 7 pounds and 6 pence—the same amount TD&T paid for a gold watch chain and engraved fob, implying that it was a fairly substantial mirror. These goods were imported luxury items and demonstrate an emerging class with disposable incomes high enough to purchase such items.

Other home furnishings sold include four walnut tables sold to Thomas Bruff of Panthers (Panther's Den), bedsteads, liquor cases (a luxury item), shovels and tongs for fireplaces and "elegant" razor cases with mirrors. A letter dated 1807 addressed to Teackle's Sheffield factor, Bishop, Potts, Carr, Parkin and Parker, records Teackle ordering "6 gentleman's inlaid mahogany dressing cases furnished with razors, etc."

Other goods included salt and molasses from the West Indies, tea, chocolate, beef, bacon, cheese (from England!), mustard and snuff. Teackle also sold rum, brandy, seegars (cigars—from Cuba) and snuff. Many of these goods, too, are luxury items, especially tea, chocolate and cigars. Interestingly, Teackle was importing quantities of "Peruvian Bark" or "Jesuit Bark," later known as quinine and used early on to treat mosquito-born fevers which were quite prevalent in the swampy areas of Somerset County.

One important and tantalizing entry in the ledger hints that the Teackles were involved in venture furniture trade. Venture furniture was taken on speculation to help fill out a cargo. A piece of furniture could be loaded in Liverpool, for example, and brought to a port in the United States where it could be sold at public "vendue" (auction).

The ledger records a Mr. Teackle brokering a secretary (what we would today call a fall-front desk) made by a Charles Farrow on December 8, 1801, and sold to Francis H. Waters (of Tudor Hall) for 15 pounds. Charles Farrow is listed as a cabinet maker and chair maker

working in Chestertown, MD, 1793-1796. This is the first important clue into whom the Teackles were using as cabinet maker for their furniture. Subsequent investigation has revealed several other transactions between the Teackles and Charles Farrow, including an order by a "Mrs. Denwood" for 42 pounds, 15 shillings and 2 1/2 pence. The Teackle/Farrow relationship apparently ends on a sour note, as the Maryland State Archives records a lawsuit brought by John Teackle against Charles Farrow on July 2, 1811, for $1,000 (a substantial amount). The ledger, therefore, establishes a link that documents an extension of Charles Farrow's known activities by at least a decade and possibly relocates him to Princess Anne. An entry in the Washington Hotel Ledger dated 1807 (now in the possession of the Somerset County Historical Society) records an account for Charles Farrow in Princess Anne, implying that he was living in there.

This could be the first documentation of a cabinet making trade in Princess Anne. Princess Anne was certainly on the upswing at this time and a cabinet trade would be a necessity to supply furniture for people in the area. This Teackle/Charles Farrow relationship bears much potential for further research and may enlighten us about the mechanics of the furniture trade on the Eastern Shore.

The ledger records expenses paid for the construction of the store including bricks, labor for brickmaking, iron work and shingles, as well as for "4 walnut tables" for use inside the store.

On November 13, 1804, Littleton Dennis Teackle offered the concern for sale in the *Eastern Shore Advertiser*, an Easton newspaper. He describes it as a "Lucrative Mercantile Establishment" located "In the pleasant and flourishing town of Princess Anne, in the gay and wealthy County of Somerset, on the Eastern Shore of Maryland." He continued: "The building having been erected for the purpose; in point of commodiousness, convenience and elegance, is surpassed by none on the peninsula." He described the merchandise he carried as "Consisting of Dry Goods and Hardware, is extensive, and particularly adapted to the uses of the neighborhood." Teackle went on to offer the business for the period of one month. If at the end of that period the business has not sold, he states that he intends to continue in business as before.

It would appear that TD&T was dissolved sometime in 1804. A letter in Littleton Dennis Teackle's daybook in the collection of the University of Virginia addressed to Littleton Teackle's good friend A.D. Campbell in Glasgow dated May 8, 1805, stated "the fact is my affairs having so rapidly increased and accumulated upon me as to exclude all opportunity of leisure or indulgence ... I determined to withdraw myself from the House of Teackle & Co. [Teackle, Dennis & Teackle] which was finally effected about 8 months past by my purchasing out the other partners - viz. - my father and 2 uncles at a specific sum nearly double the amount of their respective capitals..."

In another letter from the same daybook, Littleton Teackle further states his intentions: "having purchased their interests ... with the intention of winding up and declining a further continuance of business in that way." He continues by stating that for more than seven years he has intended to start a timber business from Princess Anne to Liverpool but a renewal of Anglo-French hostilities postponed his venture. The letter also hints at difficulties TD&T had in collecting a large sum of money it was owed. The $8,000 debt—enormous for those days—was outstanding since a court judgment had been obtained against George Lynham on March 29, 1804, and may have never been paid, since Lynham fled to Bordeaux, France .

In a letter marked "Confidential" to one William Sadler dated December 1, 1806, Littleton Teackle stated his intention to "make a retail establishment at the Lower Ferry." It is not known whether Teackle opened this establishment in place of the Princess Anne concern. Teackle apparently was a bit ambivalent about the retail business but it is clear that by 1806, his exclusive contract with the Navy Department in Washington City dominated the majority of his correspondence.

In 1807, the same day book records that Littleton Dennis Teackle orders a sign, "Teackle & Co.," re-gilt to read simply "Littleton Dennis Teackle." The retail establishment of Teackle, Dennis and Teackle in Princess Anne had finally come to an end.

The important discovery of this ledger sheds light on an important early retail establishment in Princess Anne, establishes connections in the Teackles' business dealings, important consumption patterns for the Eastern Shore in the early 19th century and offers glimpses into what life was like for African-Americans in Maryland during the Federal period, as well as further documenting the cabinet making trade in Maryland. Further exploration of these important connections could yield future bonanzas for scholars in many different areas, including social history, African-American studies, material culture and decorative arts history. The Teackle, Dennis and Teackle ledger is a exciting addition to the Nabb Research Center Collection and promises to yield rich opportunities for further scholarship in Delmarva Culture.

Somerset County Deeds H: 0-29

The following reference was located in the Somerset County deeds by author and Nabb Research Center member V.L. Skinner Jr. We thank Vern for bringing it to our attention so that we can share it with you.

A Summary Account of Real property and the Value therein in Somerset County in the Year 1786

	N°. Acres	**Value**
First District	62788	£66877
Second District	72003	90721
Third District	62963	90772
Fourth District	52050	65108
Fifth District	39762	44860
	289566	£358338
		at 24/9 P/Acres

(A Copy) Signed by Order of the Commis^{n}. Wm. Done Clerk
Recorded in Lib H folio 188 on the fifteenth day of November Anno Dom. 1786
P Thomas Hayward Clk

William Germain is former curator of the Teackle Mansion in Princess Anne, MD. He attended the University of Texas at Austin, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA, and Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico City, Mexico. Germain, along with his partner, John Tompkins, has furnished objects to several prominent institutions including the Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore Museum of Art, Middleton Place, Charleston, SC, and the New Orleans Museum of Art. He is also a member of the Museum of Southern Decorative Arts, Winterthur and the Wedgwood Society of New York.

Goods Sold at Teackle, Dennis and Teackle

BOOKS
Spelling Books
Bibles
Greek Testaments
Prayer Books
Latin Grammar, English Grammar
Scott's Lesson
Gibson's Surveying
Journals
Blank Books, Memo Books
Washington's History - by Subscription, 5 volume set edited by C.P. Wayne, Philadelphia
Washington Federalist - by Subscription, possibly a periodical
American Preceptor
Susanna Reader
Primers
Geography
Set - *Modern Europe*

DRY GOODS
Irish Linen, Check Linen, Linen
Osnaburg - a coarse linen fabric
Fine Lace, Silver Lace, Lace
Flannel, Fine Flannel, Red Flannel
Stamp Cotton
Bombazine - twilled fabric often dyed black for mourning
Super Black Broadcloth, broadcloath
Buckram - fine linen or cotton for clothes making
Calico
Dimity - fine, corded cotton fabric
Dowlas - Fine linen cloth made from long flax strands
Drilling - similar to duck, jean or khaki, often used for summer uniforms
Duck - a type of canvas
Durants - tightly woven wool fabric used for men's clothing
Edging
Ferret - narrow tape of silk, cotton or wool
Galloon - trim
Gimp Trimming, Cotton Gimp
Holland - generic term for linen for shirts, women's dresses
Lawn - thin cotton fabric
Lustring, Black Lustring - plain, lustrous silk cloth used for dresses, ribbon
Tucklingburgs - a fabric, possibly like burlap
Muslin, India Muslin
Nankeen - firm textured cotton cloth
Buff Cashmere
Gingham, Yellow Gingham
Velvet, Silk Velvet
Velvet Ribbon, Silk Ribbon
Chintz
Check, Ravens Check - for slip covers, bed hangings, used to protect expensive upholstery fabric
Brown Coating, Grey Coating
Damask Table Cloths
Sassnet or Satinet, Pink Satinet - silk or cotton weave for ladies summer clothes
Skains (sic.) Silk, Light Sewing Silk
Yarn
Vest Patterns
Green, Yellow Backing (Bocking) - woolen fabric similar to baise (felt) used for lining backs of mirrors, gluing to table tops, crumb cloths for under tables
Thread
Feathers
Buttons
Beads

CLOTHING
Hats, Boys Hats, Felt Hats, Wool Hats, Children's Hats, Fancy Hats and Bands
Hat Buckles
Gloves, Black Silk Gloves, Buck Gloves
Handkerchiefs, Muslin Handkerchiefs
Bandannas
Silk Shawls
Umbrellas
Kid Shoes, Morroco Shoes
Shoe Ribbons
Shirts
Cloth Jackets
Stockings, Raw Silk Stockings, Worsted Stockings, Ladies Stockings, Hose, Cotton Hose
Red Cloaks, Drab (a color similar to Khaki) Cloaks
Garters
Suspenders
Gold Cord, Silver Cord
Plumes

HARDWARE
Oil Cloth
Oil
Gall Spirit
Blacking
White Lead (for paint)
Paint
Saddles
Spurs
Curry Combs
Rope
Nails, 4" Nails
Sprigs - small nails
Shoe Tacks
Sets of Coopers Wares - barrel staves and hoops
Guns, Shot, Powder
Pair of Pistols
Scythes
Hoes, Broad Hoes
Grind Stone
Clover Feed
Sheep Shears
Wool Cards
Scissors
Files
Gimblets - small tool for boring holes
Chozzles - an as yet unidentified tool
Augers
Whips
Molds, Candle Molds
Pewter Basins
Pewter Ink Holders
Sets of Pewter Plates
Lead Funnels
Wine Spouts
Drawing Knives, Buck Knives, Pen Knives, Shoe Knives
Dessert Knives
Pocket Knives
Butcher Knives
Sets of Knives and Forks
Iron tea/table Spoons
Graters, Nut Graters
Iron Coffee Mills
Frying Pans
Kegs with Lids
Candles
Hinges, Butt Hinges, H-L Hinges
Screws
Brass Knob Locks, Chest Locks, Desk Locks, Pad Locks, Stock Locks
Sets of Knives and Forks
Coffee Pots
Sets of Cups and Saucers
China Bowls (probably from China) in two sizes
Spectacles, Silver Temple Spectacles, Single Spectacles (Monocles)
Combs, Horn Combs and Cases
Crooked Combs
Tooth Brushes
Soap
Moss Rose, Perfume
Paper, Letter Paper
Slates
Ink Powder, Pencils
Paste Boards
Steel Knitting Pins
Pins, Thimbles, Bobbins
Razors, Razor Strop
Saws, Saw Files
Files
Jack Planes
Plank
Shingles

HOUSEHOLD GOODS
Liquor Cases
Looking Glasses
Elegant Razor Case and Razors, Mahogany Shaving Cases fitted with mirrors (imported from England)
Chairs
Shovel and Tongs
Bed Ticking
Bedsteads

SUNDRIES
Salt from the West Indies
Alum Salt
Molasses
Imperial Tea, Tea
Chocolate
Peruvian Bark or Jesuit Bark (Quinine)
Bacon
Beef
Cheese, Gloster (sic.) Cheese
Mustard
Snuff
Seegars (Cigars)
Rum, Antigua Rum
Brandy, Cognac, Wine
Postage

MOST COMMON ITEMS SOLD
Stock Locks
Spelling Books
Latin Grammar
Scott's Lesson
Blank Books
Paper
Postage
Butcher Knives, Pocket Knives
Hats, Fancy Hats
Stockings, hose
Powder
Guns
Tea
Salt
Nails
Dimity
Bandannas
Cashmere
Flannel
Kid Shoes
Spurs
Scythes
Sets of Knives and Forks

Student Research

Miles Gray Biographical Sketch

by Marc R. Garlock

After researching the life of Miles Gray, one can easily reach the conclusion that he lived an eventful life. Playing out like a modern day soap opera, he experienced both sides of the law, both sides of betrayal, and both sides of the Maryland and Virginia border. There was a fair amount of information on the life of Gray. Most of the information came from court records. Although the early records show a somewhat wild and boisterous man, it appears as though he may have undergone a fundamental change later in life. There are accounts of several people named Miles Gray in Virginia in the second half of the 17th century. Great care was taken to identify common threads throughout Gray's life, common people and land transfers, in an effort to ensure that the same person was always being researched. What follows is most likely the life story of a single individual and not a combination of several different Miles Grays.

In 1672 Miles Gray was able to prove in the court of Accomack and Northhampton counties in Virginia that he was 34 years old. This would put his year of birth around 1638.

The first reference to Gray appears in the Accomack County court records. In court proceedings on March 18, 1666/67, Gray gave a deposition to the court about a confrontation he had with an armed Indian on a white man's property. Miles stated that he told the others that were there to bind the Indian, even though the owner of the property explained why the native had a gun. This is one of many examples in which Gray took it upon himself to become involved in the business of others.

On that same day in court, Grays' wife, Anne Gray, confessed to the court that she had been having an affair with John Hancock from April 1664 until she was discovered by her husband. This is the first in a string of unusual events involving Gray and his wife. Domestic life is complicated further when on June 16 Gray publicly disowns his wife in court, leaving her to the law. The order of the court called for her to be censured and whipped. (She was excused from corporal punishment and fined 500 pounds of tobacco.)

Ironically, on October 27, 1668, Gray admitted to fathering the bastard child of Hannah Leech, a servant to Miss Anne Toft. Gray was ordered to stay in the sheriff's custody until he was able to pay 500 pounds of tobacco and court costs as ordered by the court. He was also ordered to pay Toft 1,500 pounds of tobacco for the inconvenience of impregnating her servant. It is relatively safe to say that he was not in custody for long. He was a planter and apparently had sufficient land. On March 18, 1666/67, he received 2,000 acres for transporting people into Virginia. Also, on February 18, 1667/68, he received 1,000 additional acres for transporting more people into the state.

His use of violence and his penchant for taking over a scene were evident again in the court proceedings held on May 10, 1670. He was involved in a fracas with a couple who allegedly attacked Col. Edmund Scarborough. (Gray apparently did some sort of work for Scarborough because in January of 1671/72 he would petition the estate of Scarborough to be paid for seven years worth of service. Although it is not clear what he did for the colonel, he was awarded 21,000 pounds of tobacco plus court costs for his service.) In the May 10, 1667, deposition Gray said that he tracked down Mr. Moore, who allegedly pushed Scarborough to the floor and hit him on the head with a wooden lantern. When Gray apprehended Moore, Moore tried to strangle Gray and throw him onto a table. Gray was able to defend himself. Gray's testimony, along with the testimony of others at the scene, helped to convict Moore and his wife. Moore was sentenced to 36 lashes on his bare back.

The year 1672 had an auspicious beginning for Gray. On March 7, 1671/72, Gray and two others confessed that they opened and burned a letter addressed to a Mr. Stringer. Gray and the others asked for a pardon, and with the consent of Stringer were granted one by the end of the court proceedings. On that same day in court, Anne Gray sued Miles Gray for maintenance and the court ordered that he receive and maintain her, plus pay her court costs. The reconciliation failed, and one month later he agreed to allow Anne to leave the county and released all rights to their two boys. Anne subsequently bound out their 3-year-old son John and younger son Alexander as indentured servants.

Sometime in early 1672, Gray moved north to Somerset County, MD. As shown on the land patent granted on 11/12/1672, he immigrated alone. He was given 50 acres of land for transporting himself to Maryland. The tough times followed him north from Virginia. On April 4, 1672, Gray was sued by William Prise for assault and battery. Gray was let go because he showed up for his court date, but his accuser did not. He was back in court again on August 19 of that same year. This time he was accused of trespassing and stealing a mare from William Thomson. Gray apparently worked the mare so hard that she was no longer of use to Thomson. Gray was fined 450 pounds of tobacco and told to return the mare.

By 1674 Anne Gray was back in his life, and she pursued him through the Maryland court system. On January 14, 1674, Anne petitioned the Somerset County Court to make Gray treat her as his wife. Gray referred to Anne as the "pretend wife" and said that no person or persons, no terms, would persuade him to pay Anne anything. Two months later on March 9, Anne and her attorney provided the court with legal proof from Virginia that she and Gray were married. The court then ordered Gray to "Live with his wife as he ought." Both Maryland and Virginia would not allow Gray to get away from his legal wife.

In July of 1674, Gray sold 400 acres of land on the freshwater branch of the Great Mallapany Creek in Virginia. Later, in November 1674, he sold an additional 400 acres near Guilford Creek, VA. At this time he also posted a note on the courthouse door stating that no

A FAMILY PARTY.

From Harper's News Monthly Magazine. *May 1879, No. CCCXVIII, Vol. LVIII.*

one should trade with Anne Gray under the assumption that Miles Gray would pay her debts. Anne Gray's debts were to be her own. Miles Gray was apparently attempting to sever most of his ties with Virginia.

While dealing with Anne, Gray also had to maintain his reputation. In November 1675, Gray sued John Lemon for defaming his character by stating that he saw Gray in bed with Mrs. Anne Revell. One could assume that this accusation is factual based on Gray's past with Hannah Leech. At the same time, it could also be suggested that, based on the lack of available information pertaining to Gray after the 1674-1675 time period, he went through some sort of personal change. He is not involved in any controversial court proceedings with his wife or anyone else in the following years. He felt that due to Lemon's statements, he would be "damnified." This statement, along with future references to his position as a parochial vestryman, could point to a new-found belief in Christian morals. From this point on, Gray began to purchase land and perhaps decided to concentrate on his farming. In 1676 he purchased 250 acres called "Little Bolton" off of Hart's Creek. He also bought two parcels of land in 1687. One is called "Teague's Down" and was located between the Annemessex and Manokin rivers. The other was called "Last Choice" and was located in Fairmount. He was also sworn in as a constable for Manokin 100 in 1683.

There is one occurrence that may cast some doubt on whether or not he had truly become a changed man. In November 1709, Gray was summoned to court to answer a complaint from his servant maid, Margrett Young. The record does not elaborate on the complaint, but the court did dismiss Gray from any further attendance arising from the complaints of Young. In March 1710, Young was brought before the court for being pregnant. She claimed the father was Richard Cockerell and was fined 10 pounds of the Queen's money for her act. Gray came forward and offered to pay her fine, and the court accepted. In November 1710, exactly nine months after Young filed the complaint against Gray; the jury presented Young for having beared a bastard child servant to Gray. This series of events could be viewed as a rape by Gray, followed by a cover up involving Cockerell. Or, perhaps it actually was a case of Gray paying his servant's fine in order to retain her services.

By the time of his death in 1717, Gray had lived an exceptionally long life for the era. In his will, he left his land to his son-in-law and his godson. There was no mention of Gray having a daughter, so there is no explanation for the son-in-law. It is possible that he remarried. No evidence of a second marriage was found, but considering his age, it is possible that his wife Anne did not live as long as he did. This question is also raised because in his will he referred to his "dear and loving wife," to whom he left all of his moveable effects. Gray did not mention the name of his wife in the will. Had he in fact remarried? If so, that may be where his daughter came from. It is also possible that through religion Gray grew to accept his wife Anne. In any case, Gray had amassed many possessions during his time in Maryland. His inventory lists no less than 12 horses, 54 cows, 31 sheep and 13 lambs. He also had silver utensils, a jockey's coat, tools, at least four beds and at least two servants. It appears that he even had more than one building to inventory.

There is a lot of information on Gray, but as is normal with this time period, records are sketchy, and there are many holes to be filled. One thing that is certain is that Gray led a life filled with many unique experiences, and he was able to live such a full life while staying right here on Delmarva.

Editor's Note: *A complete copy of this paper with footnote citations is on file at the Nabb Research Center. The author, Marc Carlock, is a Salisbury University undergraduate student and secondary education/history major. Carlock was the recipient of the Nabb Research Center's Miles Stevenson Student History Prize, made possible by member Marelyn Zipser, for the fall 2002 semester. Carlock prepared this biographical sketch for his Proseminar in History course, and we thank him for allowing us to reprint it in the* Shoreline.

Our Chiefs of Chiefs Village: What the Chicone Site Means to Native Americans of the Delmarva Peninsula

by Virginia R. Busby

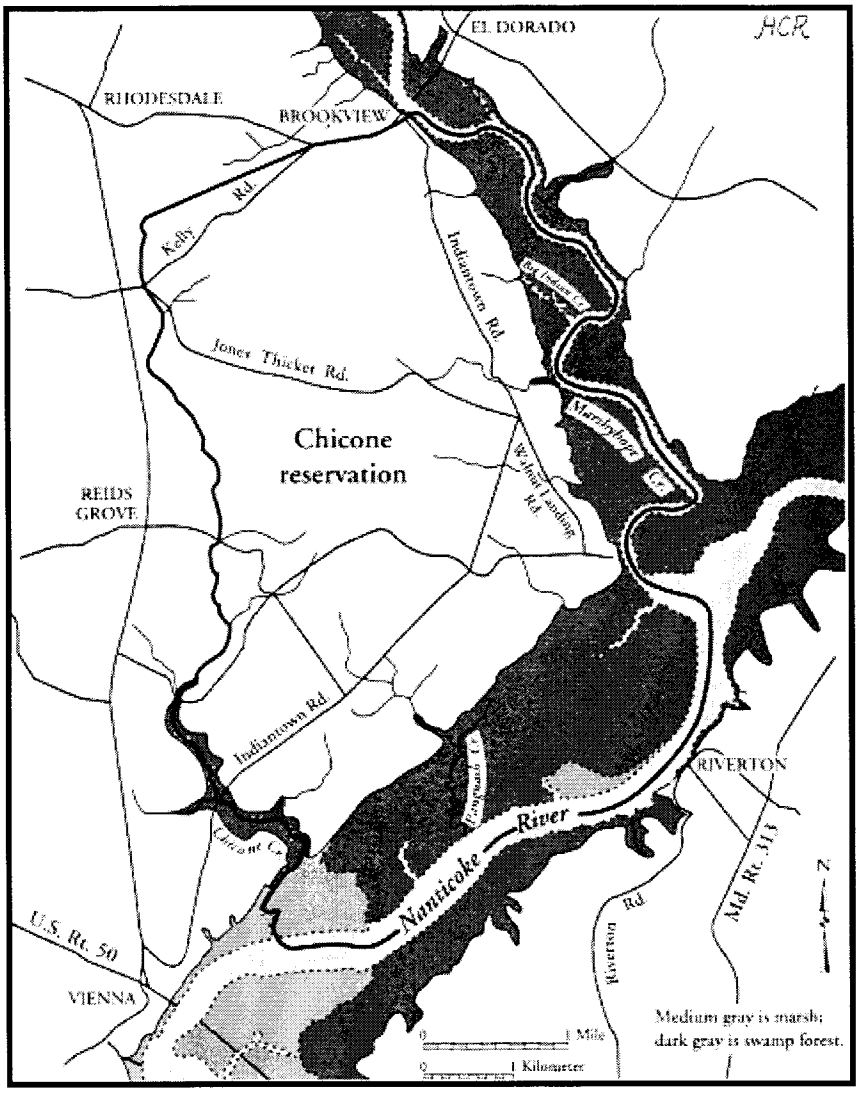
The Chicone Site encompasses at least 10,000 acres along the southern reaches of the Nanticoke River, just north of the town of Vienna in Dorchester County, MD. The site constitutes the archaeological remains of the preeminent village of the Nanticoke Indians, serving as the emperors' residence during the 17th and 18th centuries. As such, Nanticoke socio-political power centered on the village, with the settlement also possessing great ceremonial/sacred importance. As the European population burgeoned on the Eastern Shore, the loss of Indian control over land resulted in the creation of a series of Indian reservations that included Chicone Village. Chicone and the other reservations grew increasingly important as places of a recognized Indian presence and, even after their dissolution by Colonial governments, remained important symbols of Indian identity. Since 1993, supported in large part by grants from the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT), I have had the opportunity to study Chicone both archaeologically and historically. This is part of my ongoing research on the Contact Period of the Eastern Shore, particularly involving the Nanticoke Indians, and forms the basis for my dissertation at the University of Virginia. The work has fleshed out a great deal about how the Nanticoke utilized the village landscape through time and the impact of colonization.

The meaning of the Chicone Site to Indians of the Delmarva Peninsula today draws on their continued valuation of land—places—with historical significance that form a part of their present identity. This means not only revering the history of places, but a relationship to places (and the world in general) as vital landscapes. In this manner, the past, present and future generations of people and places intertwine and the meaning of places continually made and remade.

The Nause-Waiwash Indians, a group centered in Dorchester County, trace part of their heritage to Chicone. Their chief, Sewell Winterhawk Fitzhugh, described the site as, "our Chiefs of Chiefs village." The reverence his people have for the site stems from several sources. This includes its historical importance and the sacredness continually imbuing the site. This sacredness in large part stems from the fact that Chicone, as with most Eastern Shore villages, contains the burials of their ancestors. Another meaning of Chicone to them derives from their ability to determine the interpretation and treatment of their heritage, including its tangible aspects. The group fully supports the study of parts of the village but not the excavation of burials.

To this end, there are stipulations written into my MHT grants that I will not dig burials. We have also worked out an agreement whereby they and the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs will receive copies of reports generated about the site. I provide the group with updates on my research, display information about my work at its Fall Festival, and we participate in joint public presentations regarding the site and Eastern Shore Indian history.

In addition, I have a working relationship with the Nanticoke Indians of Delaware. When asked about the meaning of the Chicone Site to them, members expressed their recognition of both the pros and cons of archaeology and their support of responsible and respectful archaeology when it contributes to site preservation. They strongly support the protection of sites like Chicone and the sharing of information from archaeological research. When asked, members also saw the potential for archaeology to shed a different



Drawing courtesy of Helen C. Roundtree, from Eastern Shore Indians of Maryland and Virginia.

light on the nature of life at Chicone through time and the impact of Colonial interaction.

To me, what the Chicone Site and my research can mean for Eastern Shore Indians and to the Nanticoke Indians of Delaware is the ability for self-determination over the interpretation and presentation of their heritage and identity that has for so long been within the bailiwick of archaeologists, anthropologists and historians. The Chicone Site and other historic Indian villages are as important to these people as either Jamestown or St. Mary's City to Anglo-Americans. History is one way of supporting the identity of a people and the history of origins is important both within the group and in their relations to the rest of the world. Throughout the 19th century continuing into the present, the larger society dismissed remnant groups on the Peninsula as "not real Indians." Explicating the history and continued importance of the Chicone Site through multiple voices augments the reality of the heritage and identity of Indian peoples of the Delmarva Peninsula.

Virginia R. Busby holds a Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Virginia in 2003. She is employed currently as an archaeologist and Native American Affairs coordinator for the Army at the U.S. Army Environmental Center at Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD. Before that, she served as the executive assistant for Native American Affairs for the State of Delaware.

Master of the Corn

by Michael Dondzila

Wood beneath his feet and water all around, John Smith stood on the deck of the *Susan Constant* as his first trans-Atlantic voyage drew to a close. The expected two month journey had painfully stretched to five, but now their destination was in sight. He was no novice to travel, hardship or adventure, but spotting a New World was fresh even for him. Bravely he awaited the challenge.

Water beneath their feet and wood all around, Indians waited in swampy cover as the ship approached land. Stories had long been told of mysterious pale men that traded treasures; stories had also been told of their powerful weapons, and so they hid with bow and arrow in hand. Bravely they awaited the challenge.

The skirmish that ensued was as brief in duration as it is trivial in the annals of history; wounding Captain Archer and Mathew Morton, the Indians quickly spent their arrows and retreated to the forest.[1] But what remains important for this discussion is that the Indians knew about the English's landing before they set foot on dry ground. Though this article is not about warfare, but rather trade, the under-appreciated truth of Native astuteness is foundational to both. For what Smith refused to acknowledge was that the Indians were one step ahead of the English. They detected the English while they were at sea, they saw them paddle to the shore and they intently observed as they clamored about the dry land. They watched and waited until the opportune time and then attacked. They were not caught off guard nor were they unorganized; they were proactive. At this very first encounter, a precedent was set: Natives did not ignorantly encounter the English. Just as they entered battle prepared, so also, I propose, they entered trade relations. For centuries Indians had traded among themselves, and for decades they had traded with Europeans; they did not begin trading with Jamestown settlers devoid of knowledge. They were not passive victims of European superiority, but rather, and much to the chagrin of Smith, they understood the principles of trade, recognized European weakness and sought to exploit them. I argue that by examining John Smith's accounts, it can be determined that Powhatan did not demand his werowances to withhold corn in an attempt to rid his land of the English through starvation, but rather he recognized the heightened emphasis Englishmen placed on food and sought to monopolize the supply to his advantage.

Trade at any level occurs when two parties have possessions the other views as valuable. As such, a proper beginning to a discourse concerning trade would be to establish what each side esteemed. It is evident throughout Smith's works that Indian's highly valued foreign wares such as bells, beads, glass, copper utensils, fabric and weapons. But to receive European goods they first had to present something of value. In regard to valuable Native commodities, Smith wrote "... victuals you must know is all their wealth"[2], however, as will be demonstrated below, this statement is a greater reflection of what Smith valued than what Natives revered. A more accurate description of what Indians esteemed can be found both in burial rituals and gift-giving ceremonies—Smith leaves record of both. "A mile from Orapakes in a thicket of wood," he related concerning Powhatan's treasure, "hee hath a house in which he keepeth his kind of Treasure, as skinnes, copper, pearle, and beades which he storeth up against the time of his death and buriall".[3] Powhatan, like other ancient peoples, desired to pass into the afterlife with his earthly riches, and though he had more treasure than a common Indian, it is fairly safe to conclude that Natives subservient to Powhatan shared his value system. Secondly, it can be assumed that in gift-giving ceremonies, both parties bestowed valued possessions upon the other. Smith recorded a ceremony with the Sesquhonock natives, a nation independent of Powhatan, and in this ceremony food is not involved as a gift; rather, the Indians brought as presents bows, arrows, targets, beads, swords, tobacco and skins.[4] These gifts, it would seem, were what Natives traditionally valued. Accordingly, based on burial possessions and gifts, I conclude that Powhatan and his subjects valued material possessions more than they valued food. This, however, does not mean Indians did not value food. On the contrary, Indians and English both understood the realities of starvation and at no time would have treated food as trivial. But Powhatan and his people were not starving, and as such, they coveted luxury items more than food. And

People of the Tidewater: Eastern Shore Indians

though the Indian communities were founded upon the necessity of food, they clearly denoted status and wealth with luxuries. These luxuries were the foundation of Anglo-Indian trade.

In 1624, long after his return to England, Smith sat down to pen his work *The General History*. Though erroneous and biased at times, Smith included a unique first chapter—a report on prior voyages. While not particularly valuable for its historical accuracy (in 1170, for example, Smith believed Irish explorer Madock first discovered America and established a colony), it does provide a glimpse into the precedents of Anglo-Indian trade.[5] By the time of Smith, both Native Americans and Europeans had presumptions of how trade worked with the other; these presumptions are recorded in three accounts. Smith shares that Captain George Waymouth traded knives, glass and combs, worth 5 shillings, for more than 40 beaver, otter and sable skins,[6] while Raleigh traded a pewter dish—which Granganameo pierced and hung around his neck as a breastplate—for 20 deer skins and a copper kettle for 50 deer skins.[7] Finally when Captain Bartholomew Gosnoll and Captain Gilbert explored the north part of Virginia in 1602, Smith tells us they spent weeks seeking a red copper mine, but when meeting natives decided instead to "... exchange with them Knives, Hatchets, Beades, Bels, and such trifles, for some Bevers, Luzernes, Martins, Foxes, wilde Cattle skinnes, and such like".[8] These three accounts provide insight into established trade patterns. Europeans understood valuable commodities could be acquired for a minimum cost; a few blue beads would fetch several dear skins worth thousands of beads in England. On the other hand, Indians learned European traders sought furs and skins and were willing to impart glass, kettles, beads, combs etc. A paradigm was established in which both sides had a relative understanding of the other. In an oral culture, word spread rapidly and it would be naive to assume Powhatan was ignorant of what Europeans valued and sought in trade. It can be established that while Indians valued victuals, belongings such as beads, copper, skins and furs were their prized possessions and, as indicated by Smith, trade between Europeans and Indians was based on these materials and not food. When Smith and other early Englishmen deviated and placed prominence on victuals, Powhatan noticed the change and responded.

Almost immediately at Jamestown the paradigm that defined Anglo-Indian trade relations was disrupted by a dearth of food. Arriving in the Chesapeake Bay in late April, the English quickly lost the growing season. Smith, blaming the organizers of the expedition and bemoaning their misfortune, relayed they "... lost the opportunitie of the time, and season to plant, by the unskillfull presumption of our ignorant transporters, that understand not at all, what they undertooke."[9] He further tells that immediately after Captain Newport left there was a "... want of sufficient and good victualls."[10] By early September, when half of the crew lay dead or seriously ill and the provisions were within 20 days of being spent, "the Indians brought a great store both of Corne and bread ready made."[11] Perhaps the most remarkable aspect of the Natives providing food is that they brought the food to the English—the Indians were proactive. In later trading voyages Smith left the colony, sometimes for weeks, to initiate trade, but in this first instance, trade was initiated by the Indians. The Natives, acutely aware of the Colonists' activities, would have found it odd that insufficient agriculture was planted. Since there was contact, even if sporadic, it is highly probable the Indians recognized the food shortage and responded to the burgeoning trade opportunity.[12]

Indian-initiated trade, unfortunately, did not last forever and by November, Smith and a crew of seven to eight men were busy traversing the Chesapeake in search of tribes willing to trade food for trinkets. The first tribe they encountered was the Kegquouhtan who "thinking us neare famished, with carelesse kindness offred us little pieces of bread and small handfuls of beans or wheat, for a hatchet or piece of copper."[13] In later editions Smith revealed that the Kegquouhtan viewed him with scorn because he was starving and were only compelled to trade when Smith's troops unleashed a volley of musket fire.[14] Regardless, Smith returned to Jamestown with 400 bushels of corn, but within a month he was back on the water seeking more. This time, however, he was captured and brought before Powhatan. Surely reports from the Kegquouhtan had reached Powhatan, but it was during this captivity that both experienced the other first hand. What is critical for this study is

Continued on next page

Master of the Corn (continued)

that at some point in Smith's stay, Powhatan realized the English had a high esteem for victuals. For when Powhatan requested that Smith stay with him, he offered bread and venison as the incentive instead of traditional treasures.[15] Though Smith refused, Powhatan still sent him back to Jamestown loaded with as much bread as he and his guides could carry. Spurred by Powhatan, the next summer and fall "... the Salvages every other day brought such plenty..." that there was no hunger.[16] By the first anniversary of Jamestown, the trade dynamics had dramatically changed. Powhatan fully understood that the English settlers were not seeking furs or skins as had previous explorers; rather, they desired food. Powhatan also realized that food was not a luxury but a necessity—a necessity he controlled.

One would expect, after a winter of precarious starvation, the English would grow wise and plant corn; such was not the case.[17] The day after Smith returned to Jamestown, Captain Newport arrived from England with men and provisions causing him to write "... we thought ourselves as well fitted, as our harts could wish, both with a competent number of men, as also for all other needful provisions."[18] Moderately secure, the Colonists forgot about the hunger that had loomed just weeks before. Further complicating the agricultural situation were a group of gold refiners who accompanied Newport from England. They envisioned entering a land teeming with gold, but when they found none they simply assumed it lay buried beneath the surface.

> But the worst mischiefe was, our gilded refiners with their golden promises, made all men their slaves in hope of recompense; there was no talke, no hope, no worke, but dig gold, wash gold, refine gold, load gold, such a brute of gold, as one mad fellow desired to bee burred in the sandes, least they should by their art make gold of his bones.[19]

Captain Newport remained at Jamestown for 14 weeks—probably in hopes that gold would be found—and allowed the Colonists to use his ship as a store. People with "... money, spare clothes, credit to give, bils of payment, gold rings, furres, or any such commodities [bought their] owne provisions at 15 times the valew."[20] These provisions provided additional security, however false, that dismissed the need for any agriculture. Newport returned to England in April, but before his departure, he accompanied Smith on a trade mission to Powhatan. During the days of trade Powhatan demonstrated his shrewdness when he "... valued his corne at such a rate, as I thinke it better cheape in Spaine, for we had not 4 bushels for that we expected 20 hogsheads."[21] In contrast Powhatan received swords, copper, clothes, a bed and tools.[22] Powhatan was quickly learning the predicament of the hungry English and the increasing value of his corn.[23]

With Newport's floating store gone, no substantial harvest on the horizon, and many of the company sick once more, Jamestown had another serious food problem. Again, when starvation seemed imminent "... God the patron of all good indevours, in that desperate extremitie so changed the hearts of the Salvages, that they brought such plenty of their fruits, and provision, as no man wanted."[24] But the cordial trade of the Natives lasted only until mid-October and by November Smith was back to trading for corn. This time, however, he would find no receptive audiences. Everywhere Smith visited, he was met with enmity, and only after he displayed considerable force and threatened to destroy the villages, did chiefs agree to trade. Smith returned to Jamestown with 800 bushels of corn: 400 from the Werewocomoco and 400 from the Nandsamund. Mildly confused by the lack of amicable trade, he believed "it was Powhatans policy to starve us ..." and felt no remorse about his strong arm tactics. But one should question whether the very Powhatan who supplied Smith and Jamestown with bread and venison gifts, benefited considerably from reciprocal trade, and personally gave Smith a "great chain of pearls"[25] as a token of friendship, really wanted to starve the English out of Jamestown. Perhaps a better explanation lies in the events that followed. Powhatan sent a messenger to Jamestown with an offer for trade, but no longer did he ask for blue beads or copper pots. Instead Powhatan offered to load Smith's ship with corn in exchange for "... men to build him a house, give him a grindstone, fiftie swords, some peeces, a cock and a hen, much copper and beads." Powhatan had effectively frozen the corn market and by controlling all the supply he understood he could demand a considerable price.

For two years Powhatan had watched and listened, learning the weakness of the English. He witnessed

first hand the predominance food played in the English trade system and he knew of the paradoxical sloth that caused Englishmen to abandon their fields. Powhatan had adjusted to the fluctuating trade paradigm and earned himself all he requested minus the swords. Within days, accompanied by 46 men, Smith sailed to Powhatan where a new home was erected and trade ensued.[26] Powhatan, respecting the English militarily, aimed below the breastplate and hit the stomach—he had become master of the corn.

Michael Dondzila is a graduate assistant at the Nabb Research Center. Upon graduation from SU's history program this spring, he will be leaving for the University of Delaware to start his Ph.D. work.

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[1] *The Complete Works of Captain John Smith*, ed. Philip L. Barbour, vol. 1, *A True Relation* (Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 1986), 27.

[2] *The Complete Works of Captain John Smith*, ed. Philip L. Barbour, vol. 2, *The General Historie* (Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 1986), 121 and *True Relation*, vol. 1, 67.

[3] *The Complete Works of Captain John Smith*, ed. Philip L. Barbour, vol. 1, *A Map of Virginia* (Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 1986), 173.

[4] *General Historie*, vol. 2, 106.

[5] Ibid., 61.

[6] Ibid., 94.

[7] Ibid., 65.

[8] Ibid., 90.

[9] Ibid., 143.

[10] *True Relation*, vol. 1, 33.

[11] Ibid., 35.

[12] Smith indicates that colonists, independent of the president, traded with the Natives for furs and probably food as supplies dwindled. "Though Virginia afforded no furres for the Store, yet one Master in one voyage hath got so many by [his] indirect meanes, as he confessed to have sold in England for 30£." *General Historie*, vol. 2, 187. Further, in an earlier account Smith sermonizes "in the mean time those at the fort so glutted the Salvages with their commodities as they became not regarded." *Proceedings*, vol. 1, 211.

[13] *True Relation*, vol. 1, 35.

[14] *General Historie*, vol. 2, 143 and *Proceedings*, vol. 1, 211. Smith also notes he had to restrain his hungry soldiers from stealing the great heaps of Kegquouhtan corn.

[15] *True Relation*, vol. 1, 57.

[16] *The Complete Works of Captain John Smith*, ed. Philip L. Barbour, vol. 1, *The Proceedings of the English Colonie* (Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 1986), 215.

[17] Smith relays that 400 Indians attacked the colonists when they were "... busied in setting Corne" indicating that some colonists attempted to plant food; however, Smith does not ever mention there being a harvest. *True Relation*, vol. 1, 31.

[18] Ibid., 84-85.

[19] *Proceedings*, vol. 1, 218.

[20] Ibid.

[21] Ibid., 217.

[22] *General Historie*, vol. 2, 197

[23] A frustrated Smith relates "men may thinke it strange there should be such a stirre for a little corne, but had it beene gold with more ease wee might have got it". Ibid., 205.

[24] Ibid., 143.

[25] Ibid., 197-198.

[26] Ibid., 194-197.

The Importance of Primary Sources

by Pat Taylor, Volunteer/Board Member

Always check primary sources. While helping research Tony Tank for a display, "The Changing Landscape at Tony Tank Creek," which traces the history of Tony Tank from an Indian town to a mill to a premier housing development, we were verifying all information by checking in the primary sources. The Nabb Research Center's display was part of the Wicomico Historical Society's exhibit, "Downtown Salisbury, Maryland, Then and Now."

One of the statements in a reference book that caught my attention stated, "... the probable site of the village proper was not patented until 1764." Although it was footnoted giving the reference as Maryland Provincial Patents BC and GS 23:438, no patent or patentee was named. The Nabb Research Center has *Settlers of Maryland 1751-1765* by Peter Wilson Coldham, which lists patents and patentees, but the Center does not have the SR 7520 microfilm given as the reference in Coldham's book so the information was not used for the display.

However, Aaron Horner, a staff member, visited Annapolis and copied BC & GS 23:438-439 which listed the patent, "Holland's Endeavour," for John Browton in Worcester County. This tract is located "back in the woods from the Head of Saint Martins River" which is not near Tony Tank. The author of the reference book was contacted to discover the correct reference. Because his research is over 20 years old, he was not able to quickly put his hands on the relevant reference. He did graciously offer suggestions as to where we might find the correct reference.

This example highlights the importance of always checking primary sources because there can be discrepancies in even the most meticulously researched reference books. Anyone interested in viewing the Nabb Research Center's Tony Tank exhibit at the Wicomico Heritage Centre should call 410-860-0447.

The Indians Of the Lower Eastern Shore

by Gail M. Walczyk, Nabb Research Center Member

It was the second of June in 1608 when Captain John Smith left Jamestown to explore the Chesapeake Bay with 29 men. After first coming upon a group of islands and naming them Smith Islands, he went on to Cape Charles where he was met by two Indians. The Indians questioned Smith and his party, wanting to know who they were, what they wanted and where they were going. The Indians then directed Captain Smith and his men to the village where their king, or Werowans, lived. They were treated kindly by these Indians, who told them of the bay, rivers and islands of the Eastern Shore. After the group left, they traveled up the bay and came across a group of islands which Smith named Russell Islands (now Tangier, Watts and Smith's islands,) for Dr. W. Russell who was on the journey with him. The search for fresh water took them up the east side or Tangier Sound. At the Wighcomoco River (now Pocomoke,) Smith met other Indians that were hostile. The explorers found a great pond of fresh water, refreshed themselves and collected some for the journey up and around the Bay. These encounters and the settlements to shortly come impacted the lives of the Indians forever.

There were many small tribes on the Eastern Shore. Traveling up the Peninsula the Indian tribes of Virginia were the Magothas near Cape Charles, the Mattawames at Eastville and the Nuswattocks at Elliot's Neck between the two forks of Nassawadox Creek. The Occohannocks at Scarburgh's Neck and the Curratocks at Craddock Neck, near Craddockville, were both ruled by one king. Debedeavon, the emperor of all the Indians of the Lower Shore in Virginia and the king of the Great Nassattocks, was seated at Nandua Creek. Here he summoned the chiefs of the other tribes to council and collected eight bushels of corn and three arrowheads a year from the other tribes as yearly tribute for protection and maintenance. The Machapungoes were a large tribe with several villages, one to the northeast and one to the southeast of Nassawadox, one near Quinby and one near Wachapreage. On the Onancock River at Onancock was a tribe by that name. Lastly there were the Chesconnessex at Chesconnessex Creek, the Matomkins at Accomac, the Matchateagues, the Kicotanks near Gargathia and the Chincoteagues on Chincoteague Bay. These Indians spoke the same language as Powhatan on the Western Shore.

In lower Somerset County, MD, there were the Pocomokes, including the Pocomokes near Pocomoke, the Annamessex near Crisfield and the Manokin near Revell's Neck. The Assateagues were on the seaside, which is now Worcester County, among which were the Nassawattex and the Aquintica. This group of Indians spoke a language different from the ones to the south.

The dealings of the Indians and early settlers can be found in the court records of the three counties, Northampton and Accomack in Virginia and Somerset in Maryland. The Indians traded with both the English there and the Dutch from New Amsterdam. In 1660, which was before Somerset County was formed, Randall Revel, who represented Maryland at the plantation at Manokin, made an agreement with his Indian neighbors at Nanticoke. The agreement said that every plantation owner was to pay the Indians six match coats, neither the English nor the Indians should murder or steal from one another and the Indians were not to trade with the Dutch. At the time there were 50 persons (males over the age of 16) living with their families at Manokin and Annamessex. In 1686 Ned, an Annamessex Indian, and others traveled to St. Mary's to register grievances against the Colonists. Ned's complaint was that both John Kirk and John Carter did not let him or any other Indian hunt beaver on their lands. Also he stated that Col. Coleburne would not let them keep the skins that they did have. John Kirk had patented "Kirk's Purchase" in 1669. This land is located near Gunby's Creek, near the John Adams Farm. John Carter's land was "Brickle Hoe" at Cash Corner and east of Big Bridge.

Continued on next page

The Origin of Mattapony

by Linda Smith

If one were to ask "What's in a name?" I would have to answer—the sum of its parts, because Mattapony was one of the most widely used place names of the Algonquin Indians in Maryland and Virginia. Mattapony was set aside as Mattapony Hundred in the year 1683, 13 years after the establishment, in 1670, of Bogerternorton Hundred just to the north. Both hundreds were on the seaboard side, butting up to the Atlantic Ocean and its tributaries.

Mattapony Hundred became the southeastern-most part of the state of Maryland and butted the Virginia state line. Pronounced Matta-po-NYE, in Worcester County, MD, it was known as a "Landing Place" in reference to Mattapony Landing on the Pocomoke River. But it also represented pathways and waterways such as, in the year 1639, Mattapony Path in St. Mary's County, which led to Mattapany Creek of the Patuxent River.

Place Names of Maryland refers to the Algonquin meaning of Matta, "joined, junction and apo = water, current, expanse of water i.e., meeting of waters at a sand spit [split?]." Assawoman (Assawarmett) Inlet also was known as Fenwich's Inlet. Mayre stated in *Maryland Historical Magazine* in an article called "Sea Coast of Maryland" that "In the interest of accuracy it should be admitted that this place-name may refer to Mattapany Inlet, as the heads of these inlets seem to have been close to one another."

Not restricted to Maryland, "Mattapony" was the name John Parker gave to his 600-acre estate in Accomac County, VA, in 1660. Also, in 1669, a patent was issued to Mrs. Ann Toft for 1,700 acres, which became known as Mattapany, or Mattapany Neck (also known as Swansegut Creek) as referenced in Whitelaw's *Virginia's Eastern Shore* (page 1,361).

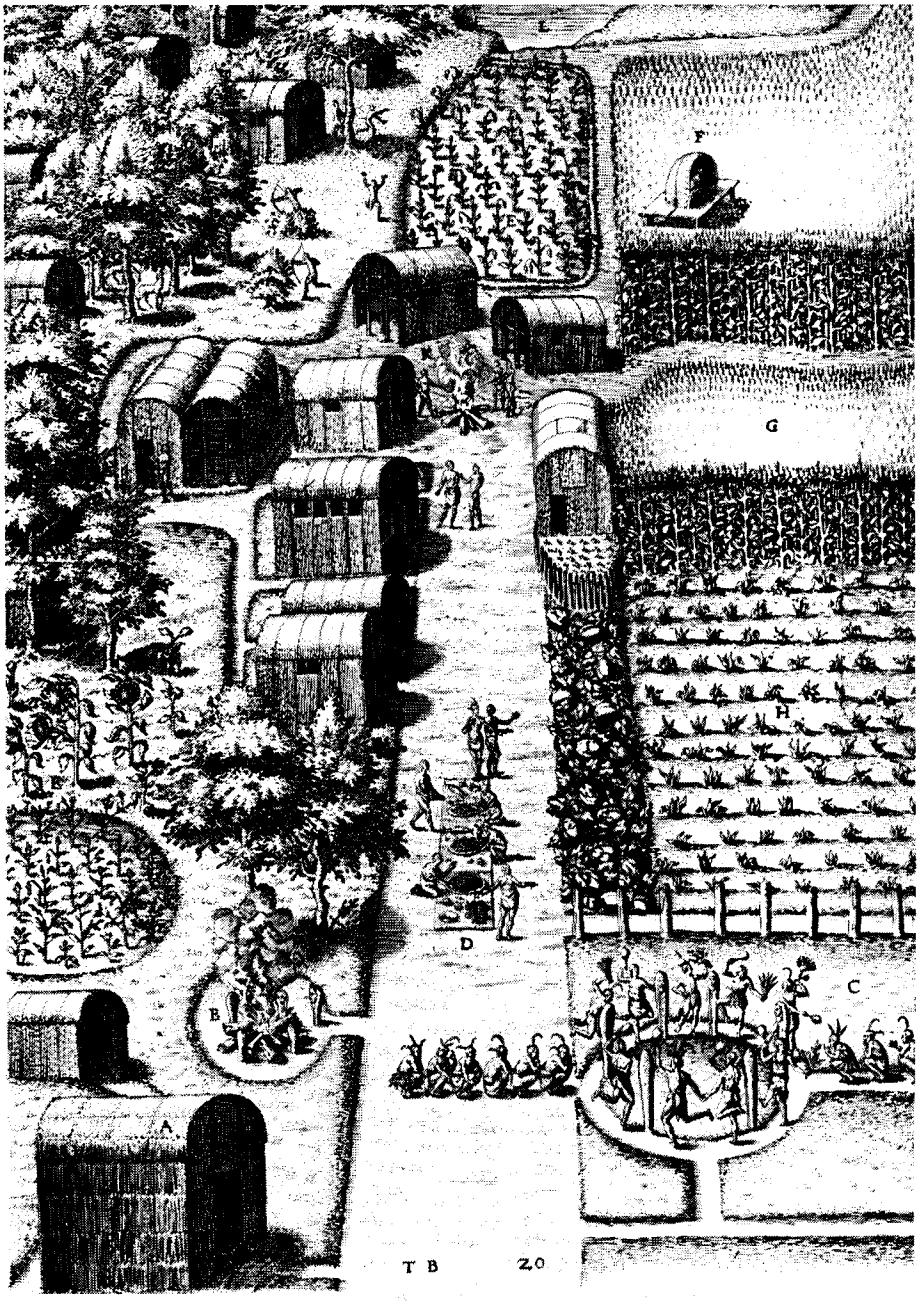
One other note. *Webster's Dictionary* defines "Matapan" as the cape promontory of Greece. (A promontory is stated as being a peak of high land that juts out into a body of water. Headland.) Is this a connect or what? One might say that Mattapony was a far-reaching name, but, to the early settlers as well as to the Indians on the Eastern Shore, it meant survival and a way of life.

Editor's Note: The foregoing excerpt appeared on Myfamily.com. We thought it would be of interest to our readers. We also note that there is a Mattapony River on the Western Shore of Maryland that is a tributary of the Patuxent River. There is also a Mattapony River on Virginia's Western Shore in old Northumberland County, today's New Kent County.

The Indians of the Lower Eastern Shore (continued)

Before 1705 the lands that had been given to the Maryland tribes at Indian Town, now Furnace Town, had begun to be resurveyed and repatented, for in 1706 Charles Parker of Accomac County left to his children his land in Indian Town on the Pocomoke River. If his wife were to die without heirs of his body, the 400 acres in Indian Town near the Great Bridge on the Pocomoke River was to go to his nephew, John Parker. In 1724 George Parker also of Accomack willed to his son Bennet Parker 300 acres in Indian Town, Somerset County, called "Wickenough's Neck" and to his son Richard Parker he left the remaining 600 acres of the same land. In 1706 the number of Indians in Virginia was considerably less than when John Smith first arrived and so started the exodus of the Indians from the Shore.

A Brief and "True" Report



In 1588, Thomas Harriot first published his *Briefe and True Report of the New Found Land of Virginia*, an account of his travels to North America in 1585-86. Although Harriot's work was published to attract settlement and investment in the New World, Harriot focused his writing on an analytical study of local natural history, including observations on the native population. Harriot was particularly interested in the Native American economy and religion (with an eye to converting pagan souls), and he also studied the Algonkian language.

In 1590, Harriot's *Briefe and True Report* was republished by the Flemish engraver and publisher, Theodor de Bry, with the addition of illustrations by the artist, John White. White is believed to have made several voyages to the New World and is documented as having made the voyage to Pamlico Sound in 1585. During his journeys, White also made careful observation of the native populations. He was a gifted artist, but there is no record that he ever received any formal artistic training. White made hundreds of field drawings of the flora and fauna he found in his travels.

The De Bry edition of the *Report*, which combined Harriot's observant writings with White's masterful drawings, had a deep and lasting influence on the way the English perceived North American Indians influencing ethnologi-

This is a drawing of a Secotan Indian village in Virginia. White laid out the drawing with letters to distinguish each section of the village.

A - Indian tombs
B - sacred prayer fire
C & D- plots for celebrating and feasting
E - gardens and tobacco crops
F - cornfields with watch tower
G & H - "They sowe their corne with a certaine distance noted by H. otherwise one stalke would choke the growthe of another and the corne would not come unto his rypeurs G."
I - pumpkin garden
K - fire circle
L - river, water source

cal studies until far into the 17th century. Interestingly, White's original drawings were seen as more true to the subject than the engravings that appeared in the De Bry edition. De Bry modified some of the Indian faces to make them look more Europeanized. Look at the engravings below and you be the judge.

Many thanks to Pam Collins for her roll in sharing these engravings with our readers and her thoughtful interpretation of the drawings.

Drawing2

Drawing 3

Drawing 2 is an engraving of a Pict. De Bry indicated that White had drawn the Pict to show how the inhabitants of Great Britain had also been savages at one time. Note in Drawing 3 how the North American Indian has the same tattoo on her upper arm as the Pict.

Source: *A Briefe and True Report of the New Found land of Virginia*, Thomas Harriot, with a new Introduction by Paul Hulton, Dover Publications, Inc., New York.

Askekesky Indians

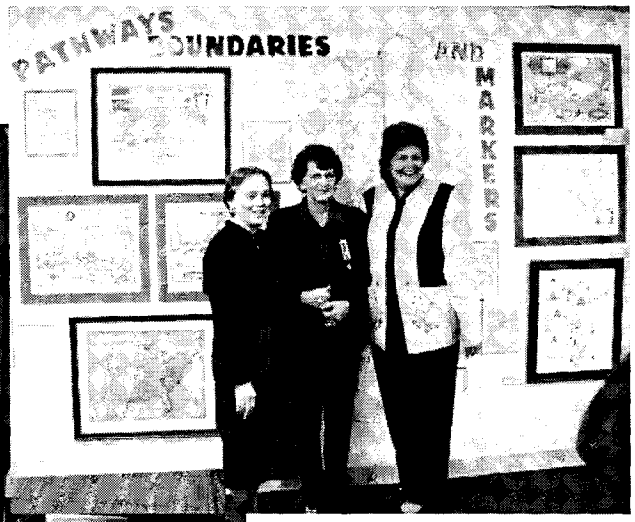
by T. Aaron Horner, GIS Technician

The Eastern Shore was made up of a number of different Indian tribes when the English arrived here in the 17th century. The major tribes included the Choptank, Nanticoke, Pocomoke and Assateague. Surprisingly, these cultures lasted for a number of years since they had as little contact with the white settlers as possible. Another factor included settlement by the Colonists first along the rivers. This allowed the Indians to interact with one another in the interior parts of the peninsula well into the 18th century. Maryland also created a number of "Indian towns" or "reservations" on the Eastern Shore. They acted as buffers between the Indians and the Colonists; thus these tribes held onto their lands longer, gaining some political autonomy from the English.

Unfortunately, there are a number of tribes who were already losing their identity as settlers moved onto their traditional homelands. The Askekesky Indians had already been expelled from the Buckingham and Assawoman areas in northern Worcester County when they finally settled at the head of Indian River. In 1705, an Indian named Robin petitioned the General Assembly for a reservation for his people on the Indian River, fearing another "uprooting" of his people. In 1711, Colonel William Whittington surveyed a 1,000 acre tract at the head of the Indian River on the south side at the mouth of Askskeson Branch (near present day Millsboro). In addition to Robin, other leaders of the Askekeskys included Weacomoconus their Queen, Robin's son Robin, Waspason, Matchoutoun, Toungacon, Hucktawcom and Kenctaghcom. The fact that Robin (as well as his son and grandson) served as interpreters for their people to deal with the English played a large part in the tribe's survival during the first half of the 18th century.

The Askekeskys held onto this land through the 1730s. However, several deeds to William Burton and to his son Joshua over a short period of time saw the entire tract out of their hands by 1741. The following year, the Askekeskys were defeated by other local Indian tribes aided by the Shawnee. It's uncertain what happened to the Askekeskys; they either left the Shore altogether or merged with other Shore tribes.

People People People People



Daughters of the American Revolution, Nanticoke Chapter, visited the Nabb Research Center for a tour and meeting in December. Pictured from left to right are Virginia Green, Barbara Bloodsworth and Lynne Rentschler, regent.

Nabb Research Center GIS Technician Aaron Horner, ssists Dr. Stone, who visited from Texas, with his family research. Dr. Stone is descended from Thomas Stone, first governor of Maryland.

In spite of howling winds, electrical outages and a transformer fire, Nabb Research Center patrons Dr. Virginia Jenkins and Philip Goldsborough continued to research with only natural light to guide them.

Deborah Truitt, SU Psychology Department secretary, demonstrates quilting techniques to history faculty, Maarten Pereboom and Ray Thompson, and Nabb Research Center Director Becky Miller.

At right, Clara Small, SU history professor, joins the quilters.

Polly Batchelder

Marion Dawson

Fay Brooks

Volunteers

Across the United States, volunteers share their time and talent to help build stronger communities. The Nabb Research Center is very fortunate to have a team of dedicated volunteers who have helped to build the Center into the wonderful resource that it has become for the preservation of Delmarva's culture and history. We want to recognize the valuable contribution that our volunteers make to the Nabb Research Center each and every day. If you are interested in volunteer opportunities at the Nabb Research Center, please contact Jill Jeffery at 410-677-5402.

Not pictured:
Mike Hitch
Lucy & Lloyd Whitehead
Jean Woolston

Pat Taylor

Jane West

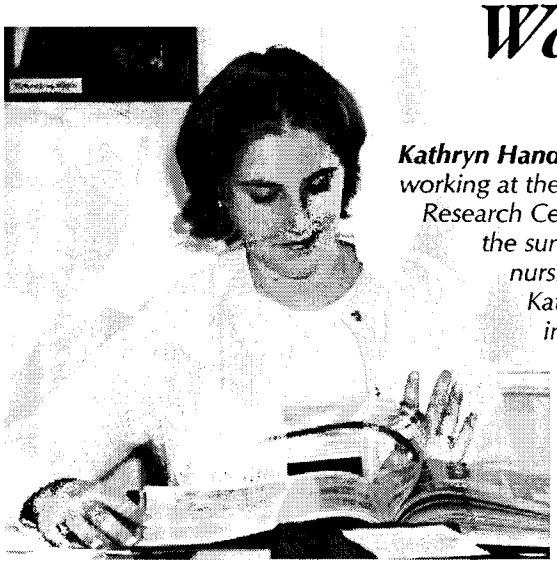
Joan Barnhart

Barbara Trader

Carolyn Ballou

People People People People

Work Experience Opportunities

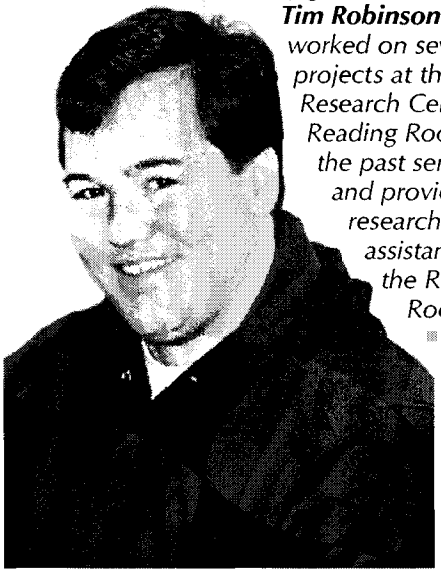


Kathryn Handy *started working at the Nabb Research Center over the summer. A nursing major, Kathryn works in the Reading Room at the front desk and handles a variety of administrative tasks.*

Work experience opportunities help students earn money to defray the costs of attending college. In addition to earning money, students enhance their academic pursuits through the learning of skills, responsibilities, habits, attitudes and processes associated with employment. The Nabb Research Center is proud to provide work experiences for a number of SU students each semester. In fact, the Nabb Research Center views providing valuable working experience for students vital to the Center's operation.

Secondary education/ history major ***Lora Koehler*** *and history major* ***Jennifer Ward*** *both work as project assistants on the American Origins database.*

Pam Collins *is a graduate assistant from SU's graduate history program. Pam is working on a documentary film project that will focus on colonial inventories.*



History graduate student ***Tim Robinson*** *worked on several projects at the Nabb Research Center Reading Room over the past semester and provided research assistance in the Reading Room.*

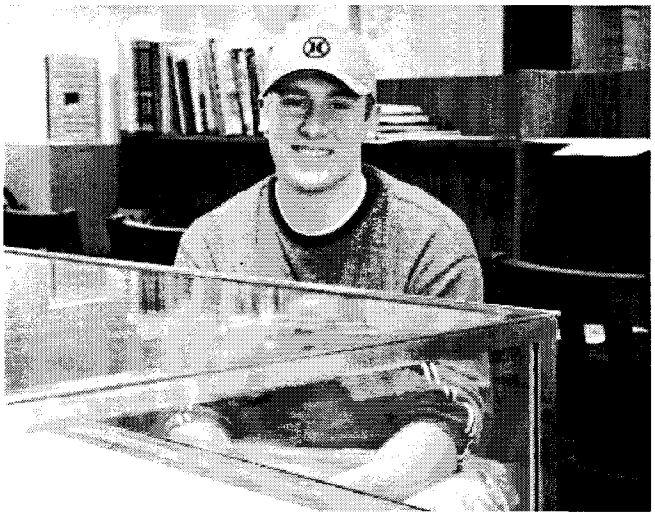
Dr. Ragan and a team of archaeology students worked at the Center over the January term to clean and sort artifacts

at the Nabb Research Center

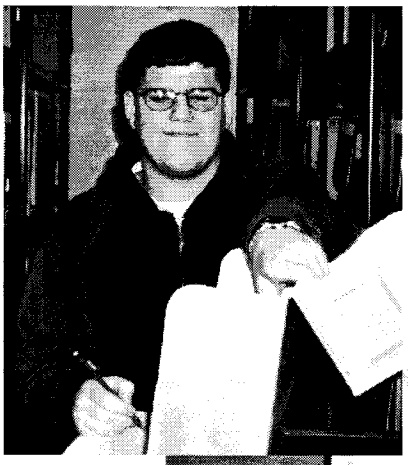
This past semester, the Nabb Research Center employed more students than ever before in a variety of roles. These students played an active and important part in the day-to-day operations of the Nabb Research Center. We appreciate the support of our members as well as the University in providing the Nabb Research Center with one of its most valuable assets—the time and talent of our students.

Not pictured: **Katie Ensmiger**, an undergraduate intern from SU's English Department, also worked at the Nabb Research Center this semester. Katie worked on a history of several local doctors.

Dr. Elizabeth Ragan and an archaeology student.



***Dave Burger** performed 20 hours of community service at the Nabb Research Center in the fall. In 2002, the Nabb Research Center provided work opportunities for 17 community service individuals who did almost 500 hours of service.*



*Sophomore **Phillip Myers** works with the archivist Becca Brooks. Phillip is conducting inventory in the Nabb Research Center archives.*

***Michael Dondzila** is a graduate assistant from SU's graduate history program. This semester Mike provided invaluable technical support and content for the American Origins project. Undergraduate English intern **Monica Yeager** worked on an article about local people commemorated on the Vietnam Veteran's Wall. The Nabb Research Center hopes to make this information available to our patrons in an upcoming publication.*

*Biology major **Rebecca Keller** is a work-study student who has been at the Nabb Research Center for four semesters. This past semester, Becky assisted archivist Becca Brooks with a photo-cataloging project that she hopes to finish in the spring semester.*

Teubner Hopkins: Master Craftsman

by Jennifer Ward and Jill Jeffery

The Nabb Research Center regularly receives requests for research assistance from various members of the campus community. We recently received a request that sent us on an interesting search that led to Teubner Hopkins, a gifted local cabinetmaker. The research request came from the Salisbury University Foundation. Some of the staff wondered if there was any record of furniture donations to the school by the late Hopkins.

Several months ago, Teubner Hopkins' daughter, Jean Hopkins Marvel of Haddenfield, NJ, was on campus visiting an SU faculty member. Mrs. Marvel was touring Holloway Hall and noticed a Queen Anne reproduction side table in the Social Room that she knew had to have been made by her father. After researching the piece, Nabb Research Center Volunteer Carolyn Ballou suggested turning the table over to see if it was signed. Carolyn's father grew-up with Hopkins, and Carolyn owns several Hopkin's pieces. When SU Foundation Assistant Director Kim Nechay turned the table over for inspection, as Carolyn suspected, the piece had actually been signed by Teubner Hopkins.

Further research revealed that the table had been donated to SU in 1981 as a 50th anniversary gift from the class of 1931. The class of '31 had given the table to Dr. Thomas Bellavance, then SU president, at the homecoming ceremony in '81. It is not clear how the class of '31 acquired the table, but Mrs. Marvel noted that her father was a friend of the late Ruth Powell, longtime SU faculty member.

Teubner Hopkins is well known by local decorative-arts buffs. He was part of family master craftsmen, beginning with his grandfather, William VonTeubner. William learned cabinetmaking in his native Germany before he moved to Baltimore in 1848. These cabinetmaking skills were passed from generation to generation and brought to Salisbury in the early 1900s when the Teubners moved here. William Teubner's great grandson was Teubner Hopkins, born in 1909. Hopkins began his work at a very young age aiding his father, George Hopkins, a native of Mt. Vernon in Somerset County, in his shop on Mount Street. After graduating from Wicomico County High School Teubner Hopkins went to work in his father's shop full time.

As Hopkins honed his skills his reputation as a fine reproduction furniture maker grew. Clients would bring pictures of pieces that they wanted and ask Hopkins to create replicas. Others brought the furniture itself from which Hopkins would craft fine reproductions. Hopkins favored using rich mahogany to create pieces in the Hepplewhite style. This furniture found its way into wealthy homes across the country.

Hopkins remained in Salisbury for the majority of his life working in his family's shop and raising a family of his own. When he died in 1989, he left no male heir to carry on the family name in woodworking. He did however, have young apprentices, two of whom are now practicing in Princess Anne and in Maine. While they are not descendents of the Teubner Hopkins clan, they do continue to provide many with the custom woodworking and master craftsman skills that the family spent generations perfecting. SU is fortunate to have a Teubner Hopkins piece in its possession, and it serves as an exquisite reminder of the type of quality workmanship brought to Salisbury by one of its own families.

The Colonial Sheriff in Somerset County

by Timothy F. Robinson

The chief law enforcement figure in the American Colonies was the sheriff. The office of sheriff had been around since pre-Norman England and was brought to the New World by the Colonists. The big difference between the English sheriffs and the Colonial sheriffs was the background of the men themselves. In England the sheriff could be assumed to be one of the wealthiest of the county and even possibly a knight or other aristocrat. However, these individuals did not settle in 17th century Maryland and ordinary citizens assumed the position.

The sheriff had two primary responsibilities both in England and in Maryland, that of a court officer and conservator of the peace. The latter is what is referred to as the sheriff's police duties. Assistance was readily provided to the sheriff, all he had to do was issue the call for assistance, the "hue and cry" and activate the *posse comitatus*, the power of the county. Once this happened, the citizenry could help the sheriff pursue or apprehend violators of the law.

Possibly because of the common nature of the Colonial sheriff, the provincial government in Maryland established strict regulations controlling the behavior and expected performance of the sheriffs. Term limits, the amount received for process service, taking of bonds, daily maintenance of prisoners and the percentage of a settlement entitled to the sheriff was all regulated. Severe financial repercussions awaited the sheriff who allowed a prisoner to escape either intentionally or through his negligence. The hope was that the government could prevent a greedy or inept sheriff from going unchecked.

With the establishment of Somerset County in 1666, Governor Calvert picked one of Somerset's founding fathers, Stephen Horsey, to serve as the first sheriff. Horsey was described as a cooper and a tradesman who moved to Somerset from Northampton,

Skipjacks

by Edmund A. Nelson

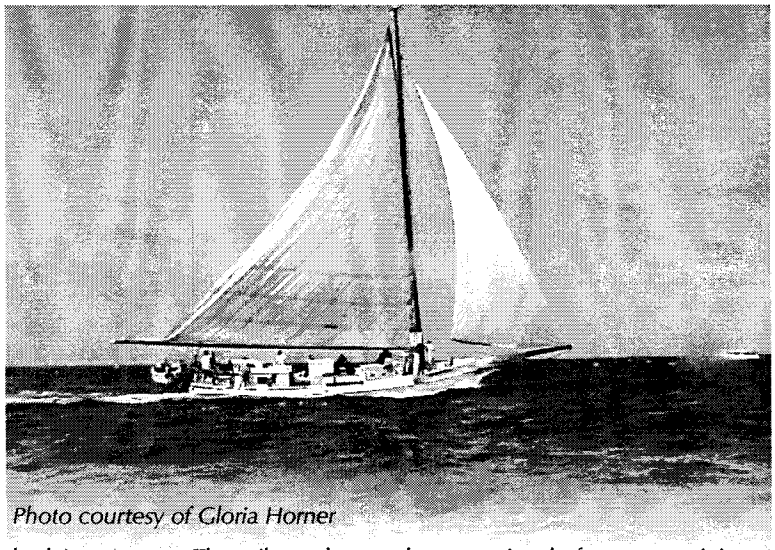


Photo courtesy of Gloria Horner

In the fall and winter of 1884 the Chesapeake Bay was a forest of masts and sails. Schooners and sloops, bugeyes and bateaus, pungies and skiffs were shoving each other aside to dredge up every oyster they could reach. The boats took 15 million bushels of oysters from Maryland's Bay that year—more than ever before or since.

The tragic depletion of the oyster beds caused a rapid decline in the production of oysters in the years following. By the end of the 1880s, the daily catch per boat could no longer support the expensive bugeyes and schooners used for dredging. A more efficient and simpler boat had to be found.

The Chesapeake Bay crabbing skiff, also called bateau, provided a good start, but some modifications were necessary before it could replace the larger vessels. The hull was lengthened and altered to give it a heavy keel and centerboard. The flat bottom, planked lengthwise, was replaced with a V-bottom, planked crosswise. The first recorded herringbone bottom skipjack, or bateau, was the *Ruby G. Ford*, built in 1891 at Fairmount near Crisfield.

According to Jim Richardson, a Dorchester County boat builder, there was an unwritten formula for this new vessel: "Her mast is the length of the boat plus the width. Her boom is the length of the boat on deck. Her bowsprit, outboard beyond the stem, is the same as her width."

The sails on the new boat consisted of a jib and a leg-of-mutton mainsail and were called a "Skipjack rig," but what the boat was called varied geographically. While the practice of calling the vessel a "skipjack" probably originated in Baltimore, records at the Maryland Historical Society indicate that Eastern Shoremen of the time referred to the vessel as a "bateau."

The skipjack had many advantages over its predecessors. It was inexpensive to build, easy to repair and could be put together by a competent house carpenter. Her shallow draft let her work oyster beds the larger vessels could not reach. Her wide beams, hard chines and low freeboard made her exceptionally stable and a good working platform for dredging oysters. Her jib-headed rig was easy to handle, powerful in light winds and was handy in coming about quickly without losing headway.

The skipjacks were trimmed with trailboards carrying the names of mothers and daughters of the owner. The trailboards were painted black, green or blue-black—but never blue—and the carving was painted in colors or gilded. The color blue was considered unlucky and was never used on a dredge boat.

Some historians estimate six or seven hundred skipjacks were built after 1896, most of them on Maryland's Eastern Shore. Only one was built in Baltimore. It was reported recently that of the 30 of them remaining on the Bay, only 20 are usable, and last winter only six dredged oysters.

The gallant boats that remain form the only commercial fishing fleet in the United States still working under sail.

The author, Edmund Nelson, was born on Hoopers Island and grew up there and in Cambridge. Many of the skipjacks on the Bay landed their oyster catch at the buy-boats or plants of his family's oyster and crab packing business, (1912-1956). In the late 1940s and early 1950s he owned the skipjack, Ruth, built by Bronza Parks of Wingate. However, most of the above information came from books by Howard Chapelle, Jim Richardson and Pat Vojtech. This report was broadcast on August 15, 2002, on Baltimore's National Public Radio station, WYPR. Nelson is a maritime volunteer at the Maryland Historical Society and a member of the Nabb Research Center.

VA, for the religious freedom allowed by the Calverts. Historians believe that Horsey was a Quaker. Not only was he of a more common nature than his English counterparts, but also Horsey was a member of what the English considered an outlaw sect. During the first decade of Somerset's existence, at least three, if not five, of the first six sheriffs were Quakers. These men would never have served in that position back in England.

Crime was extremely rare in Colonial Somerset County. The sheriff devoted much of his time to the performance of his court duties, the issuance of writs and summons and collection of civil judgments. Yet there were a few instances when the sheriff was called to act as a law enforcement officer. During the first two years of Somerset's existence there were two cases each of assault and battery, fornication, defamation and one case each of animal cruelty, poaching, hog killing and larceny. Even though there were criminal cases, it did not appear the sheriff took an active role in the investigation. Instead the sheriff primarily concerned himself with the summonsing of witnesses, the housing of prisoners and the distribution of punishment allowing the citizens to act as his police force.

While the men who served as the original sheriffs of Somerset County were different from their English brethren, they proved competent to handle whatever was necessary and allowed the institution of sheriff to establish itself on Maryland's Lower Eastern Shore. Their proud tradition of the sheriff still continues today, 366 years later as the primary law enforcement agent for the county of Somerset and its two offshoot counties, Worcester and Wicomico.

Tim Robinson is a Wicomico County sheriff's deputy. He is a graduate student in the SU history program and works as a research assistant at the Nabb Research Center. Tim resides in Hebron, MD.

Disappearing Delmarva

Merrill Family Farm

by T. Aaron Horner

Photo courtesy of Paul Touart, from Along the Seaboard Side: The Architectural History of Worcester County, Maryland.

On Dec 14, 2002, Margaret Merrill gave up her one treasure: the family farm. Though this may be a common occurrence today, it was a very difficult decision for her to make. The farm was the only home she had ever known and it had been in her family for nine generations. Most families here on the Lower Shore cannot claim the land they now possess has been in their family for more than a few generations, let alone the last 300 years.

This 102-acre farm, situated four miles south of Pocomoke City on Cedar Hall Road, came into the Merrill family in 1832 when Ann Houston deeded the farm to her son-in-law Levi Merrill, Margaret's great-grandfather. The farm itself is made up of three different land tracts: Brittingham's Chance, Scott's Lott and Lankton. The tract Scott's Lott had been in the Houston family since 1676 when Robert Houston purchased the land from William Scott; the other two tracts were later additions by the family during the 18th century. Margaret inherited the farm upon the death of her father, Upshur Merrill, in 1973. The present homestead, originally built sometime in the second quarter of the 19th century, has seen several modifications. This two-story, four-bay main block structure has retained some of its Federal-style features in the front door and windows. Further additions included paneled corner pilasters to the main block and plain Greek revival mantels found inside the home. What is unique about the home is an attached kitchen, uncommon for that time period since kitchen fires were prevalent.

Over the years, Margaret Merrill found it difficult maintaining the family farm alone. This past August a fall down the stairs in her home forced her to make that drastic decision. Now she is left with the memories of times past, an age of horse-drawn buggies and kerosene lamps now replaced by tractors and electricity.

The Parker Family Of Virginia

This article appeared in the Peninsula Enterprise *newspaper, Accomac Courthouse, VA, on Saturday, August 20, 1904. Jean Mihalyka transcribed the article and it appears in her book,* Bible Records of Accomack and Northampton Counties, Virginia Including the Watkinson Record Book of Deaths - 1946-1956. *Many thanks to Jean for allowing us to reprint from her transcription.*

We are not going to let the great State of New York have all the honor of giving to the Union the next Democratic President, for, though he was born in that State, yet Virginia can show that the Parker family settled in Accomack County, VA, prior to those who first settled in New York.

Connecticut really claims the first family of Parkers who came to this country, settling in Hartford in 1635, but from the arms they bore, it was a different branch from those who settled in Virginia, New Jersey and New York, all of whom were descended from Sir Edmund Parker of County Devon, England. Captain George Parker emigrated to Virginia in about 1654, settling at Poplar Grove, Accomack County. This county was first called "Ackawmacke," after a tribe of Indians and was taken from Northampton County in 1672.

Sir Edmund Parker, of Devon, was connected with the Earl of Morley, their arms being the same. He married Dorothy, the daughter of Sir Clement Smith of Essex County. From his only son, John, was Edmund Parker, who succeeded to the estate; from this Edmund was George Parker, the emigrant.

Captain Parker, it seems, landed just previous to Bacon's rebellion and doubtless obtained his title while in the service of that redoubtable warrior, as he is not afterward mentioned during the Revolutionary War. Of his immediate family we have no record, but many of his descendents have been spoken highly of, among whom was Severn E. Parker, born in Northampton, and represented the State in Congress of 1819 to 1821; also Josiah Parker, who was in Congress of 1789 to 1801. Some members of the family moved into Westmoreland County, where the Hon. Richard Elliot Parker was born in 1783; he became a brilliant lawyer and was sent early to the State Legislature, and in 1837 was a senator in Congress. He was also a judge if the Supreme Court of Appeals. He died at Richmond in 1840. ...

The Parkers were all early supporters of the established church. Bishop Meade mentions Severn E. Parker and George Parker as members of the vestry at old Hunger's Church, Northampton in 1712, and afterward are found in the other parishes on the Eastern Shore. Many of the family intermarried with the Upshurs, Severns and other highly-esteemed families of the early settlers, whose descendents still perpetuate the name. ... The coat of arms as given for the Virginia Parkers are thus described:

Arms- Sable, a stag's head cabossed between two flaunches, argent.

Crest- A cubit arm erect, couped below the elbow, sleeved azure, cuffed and slashed argent, in the hand a stag's attire (or horn gulis).

Motto- Fideli certa merces.

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He scatters gifts on the parched earth
Mercury with his caduceus and winged helmet

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Nabb Research Center Featured in Baltimore Sun

The Nabb Research Center continues to gain regional and national prominence as a unique history laboratory that provides both students and scholars with primary resources for humanities research. Last month, a lengthy article about the Nabb Research Center appeared in *The* (Baltimore) *Sun's* Education section. While the focus of the article was the master's in history program at Salisbury University, the Nabb Research Center was featured prominently throughout the article. Nabb Research Center Director Rebecca Miller was quoted as saying, "The Nabb Center is the centerpiece of the History Department's graduate program." "The research center's strength is in Colonial records from the Eastern Shore of Delaware, Maryland and Virginia. This region in the Colonial period is relatively understudied ... our records are continuous for 300 years" said Martin Pereboom, associate professor of history and chair of the history department. The records at the Nabb Research Center start in 1632 and go to 1930. The Nabb Research Center also houses an impressive collection of over 12,000 archival items, 2,500 reels of microfilm and over 4,000 books. *The Sun* article called the Nabb Research Center "a treasure chest for those who seek primary sources or original material on regional history." The history graduate program at Salisbury University draws students from diverse backgrounds. One of the students featured in the article was Nabb Research Center graduate assistant Pamela Collins. During her tenure at the Nabb Research Center, Pam completed the history mural in front of the Henson Science Hall commemorating Salisbury University's 75th anniversary. The Nabb Research Center is privileged to provide SU students with a unique opportunity to study history in a hands-on environment.

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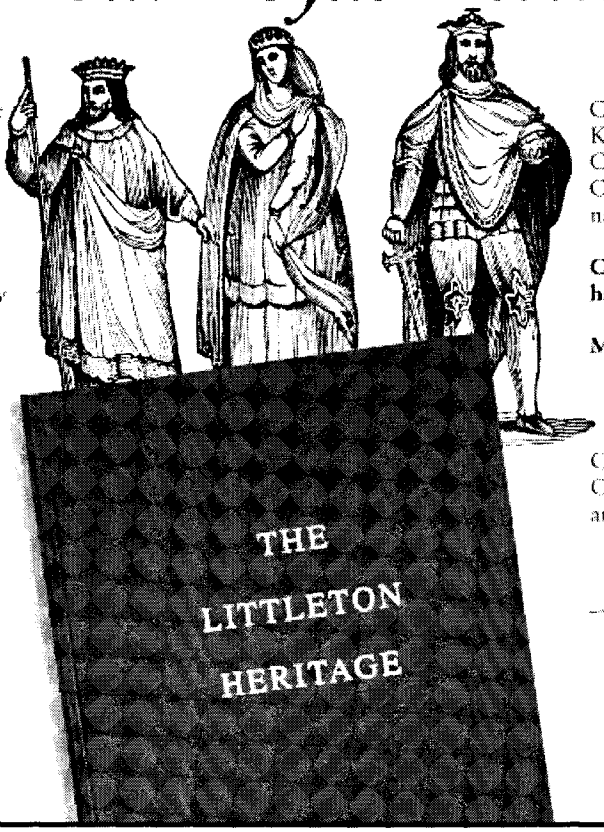

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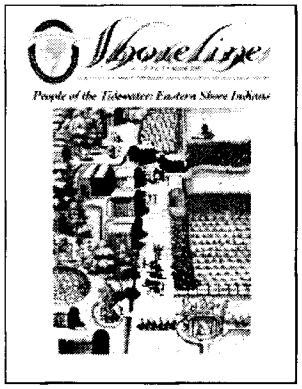

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